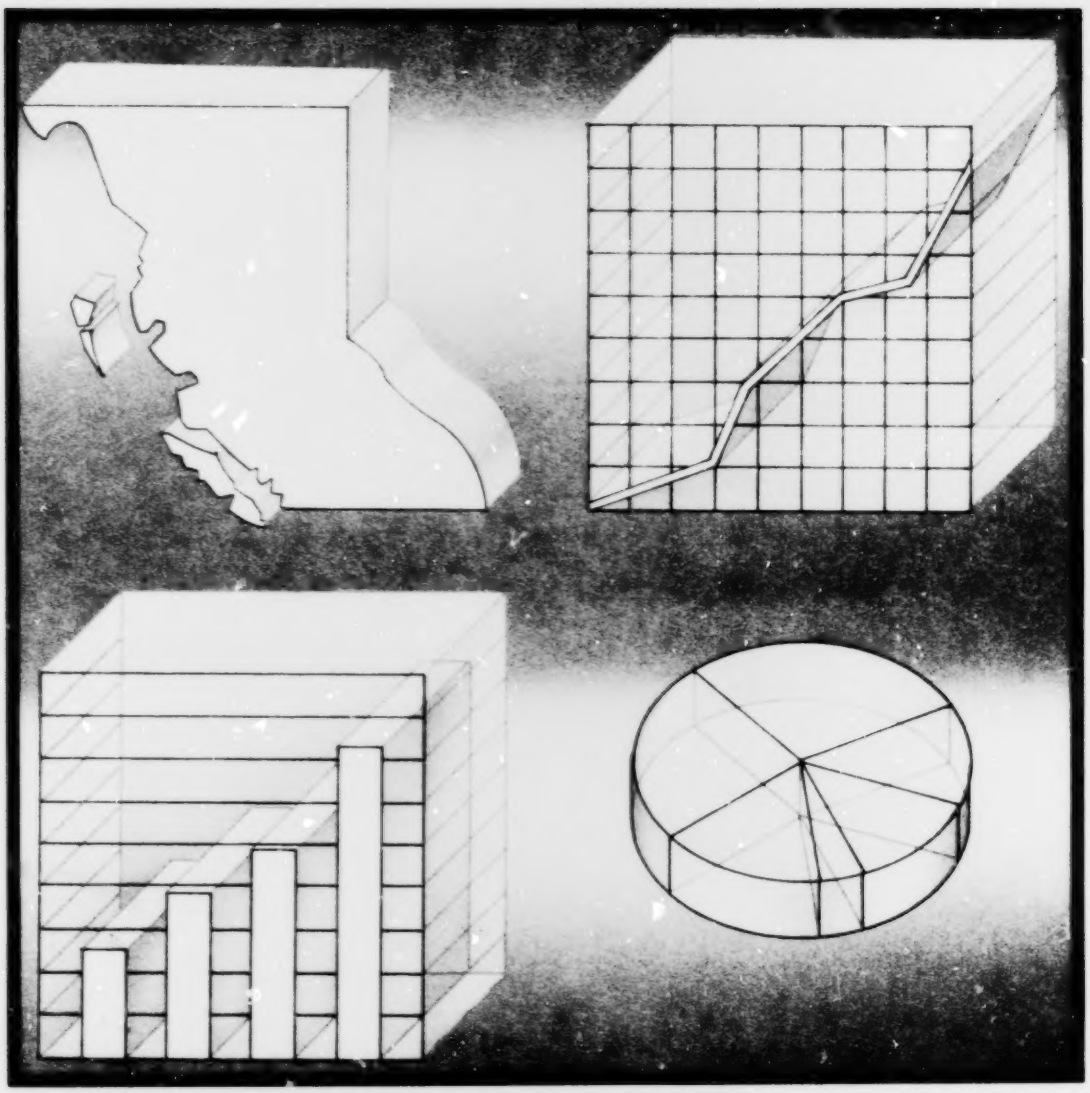
BC

Ministry of Industry and Small Business Development
THE HONOURABLE DON PHILLIPS, MINISTER

British Columbia Facts and Statistics



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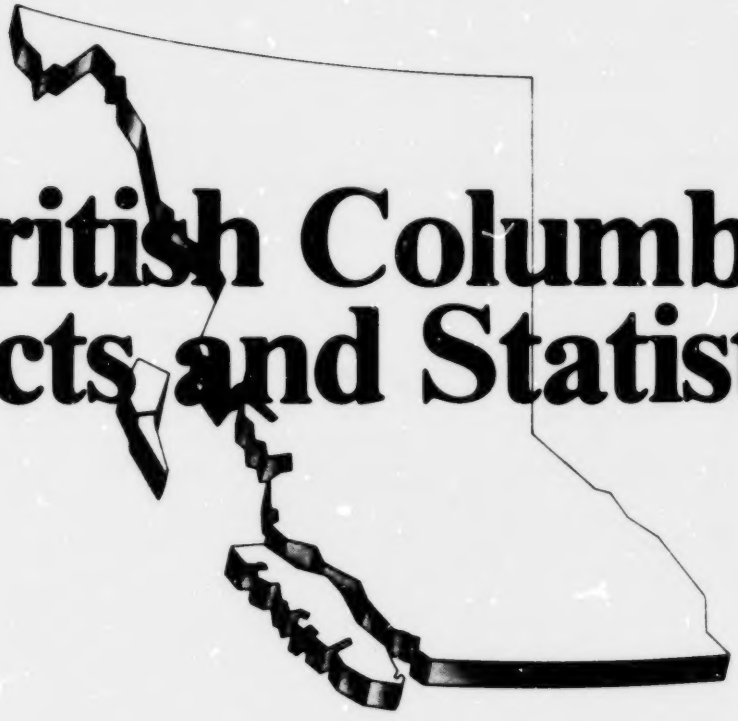

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FOREWORD

1984 *British Columbia Facts and Statistics* is an update of the previous edition published in 1983. Its purpose is to provide both a visual presentation using a series of maps and current information on the resources and economic activities of the province in one publication. It contains information regarding physiography, climate, geology, forestry, minerals, agriculture, fisheries, tourism, and other aspects concerning the economy of the province, as well as sections on government, population, labour force, education, and social services.

The need for a publication of this format became apparent from the numerous requests received by this Ministry for information about British Columbia. We suggest the reader use this booklet only for general information and refer to other publications of this and other ministries for more specific or more detailed analysis of any subject. To obtain a list of other publications available through the Ministry of Industry and Small Business Development, please contact the Ministry at either of the following locations:

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ECONOMIC HISTORY

The Province of British Columbia entered into Confederation with Canada on July 20, 1871. It has had an exciting and fascinating economic history and has before it a dynamic, rewarding economic future.

British Columbia has a land and water area of 948,596 square kilometres. It is approximately 1,450 kilometres (900 miles) long and averages 640 kilometres (400 miles) across. It extends from the 49th parallel on the south to the 60th parallel on the north, and from the Pacific Ocean and the Alaska Panhandle on the west to Alberta's western boundary on the east. The Yukon and Northwest Territories are its northern neighbours and the American States of Washington, Idaho, and Montana, its southern neighbours.

European contact with the land that is now British Columbia began in 1774 when a Spanish sailing ship commanded by Juan Perez anchored south of Nootka Sound. The early explorers traded with the native Indian people who had lived for many centuries along the coast and the main western rivers. The abundant wealth which the Indians obtained from their surroundings provided the basis for a vigorous and complex native culture.

The extended visit by Captain James Cook to Nootka Sound in 1778 established Britain's interest in the region. The visit set the stage for the fur trade which flourished until the middle of the 19th century. Captain John Meares established a trading post at Nootka in 1877, loading a vessel with furs and a deckload of spars for shipment to China. This represented the first reported trade in timber from British Columbia.

Fur traders of the North West Company explored the interior of the Province; Alexander Mackenzie, Simon Fraser, and David Thompson each explored different routes from British North America to the sea. Alexander Mackenzie reached the Pacific Ocean at Bella Coola in 1793. Simon Fraser established a trading post at Fort McLeod in 1805. Fraser also founded Fort St. James on Stuart Lake and Fort George at the confluence of the Nechako and Fraser Rivers in 1806 and 1807 respectively. All were established in the name of the North West Company.

The North West Company and the Hudson's Bay Company amalgamated in 1821. In 1843 the Hudson's Bay Company established Fort Victoria as its western depot, in anticipation of the loss of its then current western depot at Vancouver, Washington. In 1846 the Oregon Treaty established the United States-British Columbia border at the 49th parallel, two hundred miles to the north of the lower Columbia River. The Hudson's Bay Company established the first mechanized sawmill in British Columbia near Victoria in 1848. The British Crown Colony of Vancouver Island was formed in 1849.

The discovery of gold on the Fraser River in 1858 attracted thousands of people to the area and Victoria, as the supply centre, was suddenly transformed from a trading post to a city. New Westminster, Hope, and Yale also came into prominence as a result of the gold rush. The discovery of gold on the Fraser River also caused the Crown to extend its jurisdiction to the mainland. The colony of British Columbia, an amalgamation of Vancouver Island with the mainland, was formed in 1866. The brief economic boom during the gold rush years did not provide a firm base for continued rapid growth. The lack of immigrants, capital, and markets made the prospect of a rail link to the east attractive, and in 1871, with the promise of an all-Canadian railway, British Columbia joined Confederation.

Major utilization of forest resources started after the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1886 and expanded in accordance with market conditions as transportation systems allowed. Pulp production began in 1909, although 1912 is considered the birthdate of the industry when three new plants went into production and newsprint production was started at Powell River. Fraser Mills near New Westminster produced the first plywood in British Columbia in 1913. Coastal sawmills exported lumber to world markets while interior sawmills found their first important market in the Prairie settlement boom prior to World War I. Pulp and paper mills, producing sulphite pulp and newsprint, were built at sites offering abundant soft water, energy and wood supplies. The rapid expansion of demand for paper products, associated with changed packaging techniques in the

postwar period, shifted the emphasis to "kraft" or sulphate pulp. Completion of the Panama Canal in 1914 opened new markets in Europe, giving further impetus to the establishment and expansion of pulp, paper, and lumber mills, fish packing plants, fruit and vegetable canneries, and smelters, plus expansion of port facilities to handle the export of grain from the Prairies. Population growth also accelerated as the railroad encouraged greater migration of settlers to British Columbia.

Economic activity in British Columbia increased as a result of World War II, during which base metals and forest products were in strong demand. Construction of the Alaska Highway by the Americans during the war and later track extensions, modernization of equipment, and improved services of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway (now British Columbia Railway) proved of great benefit in opening up the northern and central sections of the province.

Strong world demand for the products of British Columbia's resource-based industries brought tremendous economic growth following the war. Improved technology in all phases of the forest industry has increased utilization of the province's forest resources while also increasing efficiency and productivity. This has permitted the development of large integrated forestry complexes, not only in the coastal areas but also in the Interior.

Mining activity began with the working of Vancouver Island coal deposits in the 1840's but placer gold attracted the most attention in the early period. Production of lode gold and copper then overshadowed other minerals until the 1920's when the huge Sullivan lead-zinc mine at Kimberley came into full production. In the 1960's the emphasis again shifted to copper as new markets and technology permitted the development of large, low-grade, open-pit mines. Commercial production of gas and oil in the Peace River District began with completion of the main gas and oil pipe-lines in 1957 and 1961 respectively. The coal mining industry was reactivated in the late 1960's when Japanese steelmakers began purchasing large quantities of coking coal from British Columbia mines.

The fishing industry has also been important through the economic history of the province. Salmon canning began in 1870 on the Fraser River, spreading quickly northwards. Canning made possible the marketing of salmon in distant places. In the 1960's and 1970's some canning activity was displaced as freezing technology became prominent and operations became more centralized in Vancouver and Prince Rupert. The 1970's also saw the emergence of a major roe herring fishery in the Province's coastal waters.

Fur traders introduced agriculture to British Columbia in the first quarter of the nineteenth century in order to reduce their dependence on distant and costly sources of foodstuffs. Crops of grain, vegetables and fruits were raised and dairy cattle and horses were kept at many trading outposts. Demand for agricultural products increased considerably with the influx of gold seekers. Commercial farming and Interior cattle ranching began during the mining booms. Activity expanded with the settlement of lands opened by the coming of the railways. Irrigation schemes in the Okanagan and Kootenays and land reclamation programs in the Lower Fraser Valley and at Creston provided rich new productive capacity. Grain and seed crops began to be cultivated in the Peace River region after the turn of the century. Specialized agricultural production in various regions of the province has been largely determined by climatic conditions.

Manufacturing in British Columbia is mainly resource-oriented. However, an increasing range of products is produced locally and the smaller industry groups make an important contribution to the economy. Wood products remain the largest manufacturing group in the province, although recently the industry has not matched the growth rates of other types of manufacturing activity such as primary metals, metal fabricating and electrical products. The industrial base is slowly becoming more sophisticated and diversified. Industrial growth will, however, continue to be resource-oriented since British Columbia has an abundance of natural resources, much of which remains to be developed.

The United States and United Kingdom constituted the two major markets for British Columbia products until 1967 when Japan replaced the United Kingdom as the second most important trading partner. In recent years, other Pacific Rim countries, with

approximately half of the world's population, have become important trading partners and represent a high proportion of the current and potential trading volume through British Columbia ports. Recent major port developments in the Prince Rupert and Vancouver areas, backed up by continuing rail and road improvements and an increasing industrial capability will enhance the province's ability to serve future world markets.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

THE BRITISH COLUMBIA ECONOMY 1972-1982

The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at Market Prices of British Columbia, the sum total of all goods and services produced by the economy in a given year, totalled $44.7 billion in 1982, almost a fourfold increase over the 1972 GDP of $11.8 billion. Removing the effects of price changes, British Columbia's GDP in 1971 dollars was $16.9 billion in 1982, 52 percent higher than the 1972 level of $11.1 billion. Average annual real GDP growth in British Columbia was 4.4 percent compared to 2.9 percent for Canada over the 10-year period. In 1982, British Columbia comprised 12.5 percent of Canada's real GDP compared to 11 percent in 1972.

Among the income components of British Columbia's Gross Domestic Product, the largest is labour income (including wages, salaries, supplementary labour income and military pay and allowances) which made up 56.6 percent of GDP in 1982, slightly higher than its 55.7 percent share in 1972. Business income (including corporation profits, investment income, unincorporated business income and farm income) saw its share of GDP reduced from 21.8 percent in 1972 to 20.5 percent in 1982. Taxes, both direct and indirect, made up 14.8 percent of GDP in 1982 compared to 13.3 percent in 1972.

Among the expenditure components consumption (personal and government) accounted for 78.7 percent of British Columbia's Gross Domestic Expenditures (GDE) in 1982 compared to 76.5 percent in 1972. Investment (by business and government) declined from a 25.9 percent share in GDE in 1972 to 24 percent in 1982. Merchandise exports, comprising 29.9 percent of GDE in 1972, grew to a high of 35.7 percent in 1980 before declining to a low of 24.6 percent in 1982.

In terms of industrial shares, the structure of the British Columbia economy has changed considerably since 1972 as summarized by the following table.

Over the decade 1972-82, fishing and related processing was the only component to maintain a constant GDP share. Agriculture and food products slipped from 3.5 to 3 percent while the forest industries dropped from 11.8 to 8.6 percent. Offsetting these declines to some extent was the increase from 5.4 to 6.8 percent recorded by the mining and mineral processing industries. Non-resource-based manufacturing and construction both declined slightly but utilities (electricity, water and gas) increased their share significantly

BRITISH COLUMBIA GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT AT FACTOR COST BY ACTIVITY

Activity	1972		1982	
	($ Millions)	% of GDP	($ Millions)	% of GDP
Agriculture & Food Products	359	3.5	1,171	3.0
Forestry, Wood and Paper	1,220	11.8	3,392	8.6
Fishing & Fish Products	87	0.8	322	0.8
Mining and Mineral Products	559	5.4	2,698	6.8
Other Manufacturing	482	4.7	1,620	4.1
Construction	793	7.7	2,979	7.5
Utilities	332	3.2	1,865	4.7
Total Goods Producing	3,832	37.0	14,047	35.4
Transportation, Communications & Storage	1,136	11.0	4,025	10.1
Wholesale Trade	571	5.5	1,965	5.0
Retail Trade	806	7.8	2,692	6.8
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	1,327	12.8	4,712	11.9
Community, Business and Personal Services	2,000	19.3	9,360	23.6
Public Administration and Defence	692	6.7	2,862	7.2
Total Service Producing	6,532	63.0	25,616	64.6
GDP at Factor Cost	10,364	100.0	39,663	100.0

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.
Source: British Columbia Economic Accounts, 1963-1982

from 3.2 percent to 4.7 percent of GDP. Taken as a group, the goods-producing activities have lost ground as a percent of GDP, from 37 percent in 1972 to 35.4 percent in 1982.

On the other hand, the service-producing activities have expanded their share of GDP from 63 percent in 1972 to 64.6 percent in 1982. Within the service sector, four activities have declined in shares of GDP from 1972 to 1982: transportation, communications and storage (11 percent to 10.1 percent), wholesale trade (5.5 percent to 5 percent), retail trade (7.8 percent to 6.8 percent) and finance, insurance and real estate (12.8 percent to 11.9 percent). But the rapid growth in community, business and personal services (including health, education, food and accommodation services, services to business management, etc.) resulted in the growth of its GDP share from 19.3 percent in 1972 to 23.6 percent in 1982. Public administration and defence also grew slightly from 6.7 percent in 1972 to 7.2 percent in 1982.

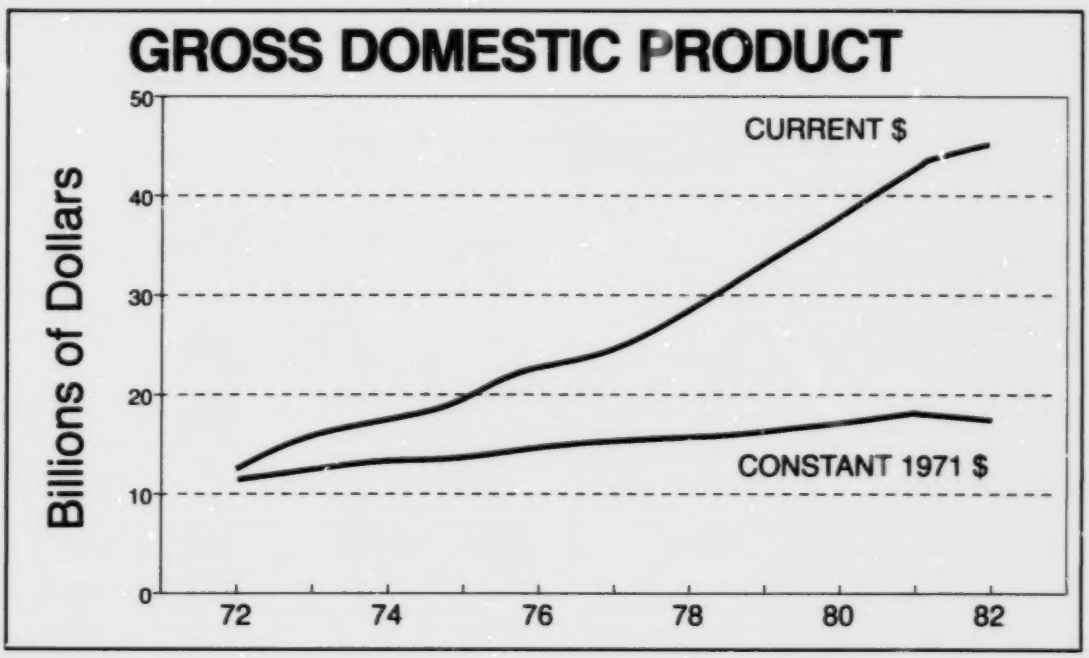
The economic performance and structural changes in the B.C. economy over the period 1972 to 1982 can be summarized as follows:

(1) Fourfold increase in nominal GDP; a 4.4 percent average annual real GDP growth; and an increasing British Columbia share in the Canadian economy.

(2) Small relative growth of labour income as a proportion of GDP at the expense of business income. Continuing increase in the percentage of GDP attributable to taxes.

(3) Relative decline in investment and relative increase in personal and government consumption as a proportion of GDE. A decline in the share of GDE attributable to merchandise exports.

(4) An increase in the service sector share of GDP and a decline in the goods-producing sector share. Among individual activities, the largest increases in GDP share were in community, business and personal services, utilities and mining, while the largest declines in GDP shares were in forestry, agriculture, retail and wholesale trade and transportation, communications and storage.



East Kootenay Region

The East Kootenay region represents 3.2 percent of the total area of the Province and 2.0 percent of the population. In the Fernie area coal mining is the dominant activity and vast coal resources are yet to be exploited. The Cranbrook-Kimberley area enjoys a broader economic base; farming, logging and sawmilling activities are widespread. There is a pulpmill at Skookumchuck and a major mining-fertilizer complex at Kimberley. Cranbrook is the regional centre for a wide range of trade, commercial, transportation and government services. The Invermere area is sparsely populated, with an economy based on logging, sawmilling, ranching and the tourist industry.

Central Kootenay Region

Two Regional Districts, Central Kootenay and Columbia-Shuswap form the Central Kootenay region, which contains 6 percent of the province's surface and 3.4 percent of its population. The terrain is mountainous; valleys are oriented north-south and contain a number of reservoirs providing water supplies for power generation facilities. The only relatively flat areas are around Creston and Salmon Arm where agricultural enterprises are concentrated. Forestry constitutes the largest primary industry with logging and processing activity widespread. The region's only pulpmill is located at Castlegar. Nelson is the regional commercial and administrative centre, Revelstoke is a divisional railway point and the Salmon Arm area derives considerable benefit from tourism and the retirement industry. The region has a long history of mining and a number of small mines are operating, primarily in the Nelson area.

Okanagan-Boundary Region

Three Regional Districts covering the Okanagan Valley and the Kootenay Boundary Regional District comprise this economic region. It contains 3.3 percent of the provincial land area and 8.4 percent of the population. At Trail the huge Cominco non-ferrous smelter complex dominates the local economy but elsewhere in the region agriculture and the forest industries are the primary supports. The Okanagan Valley contains most of the Province's orchards and vineyards. Tourism and the retirement industry also provide considerable economic benefit, and non-resource manufacturing is important. Mining and mineral exploration provide a significant number of jobs at Princeton, Peachland and Hedley. Penticton, Kelowna and Vernon have all developed to some extent as regional commercial and administrative centres, with the largest, Kelowna, ranking first in this regard.

Lillooet-Thompson Region

Comprising Squamish-Lillooet and Thompson-Nicola Regional Districts, this economic region accounts for 6.9 percent of the province's land area and 4.4 percent of its population. The bulk of the region is part of the Interior Plateau, prime cattle range. Agriculture was once the leading primary sector but is now outranked by forestry and mining. Forest industries activity is widespread but the only pulpmill is located at Kamloops. The Highland Valley area, south-west of Kamloops, contains the largest, and the greatest concentration of, copper-molybdenum mines in British Columbia. Mineral exploration activity is extensive. Services related to transportation and tourism provide many jobs. Kamloops is the largest community and the regional trade, administration and manufacturing centre.

Lower-Mainland Region

There are six Regional Districts within this economic region. It is the smallest of the subprovincial regions with only 2.9 percent of the land area, but it is by far the most populous with 52.4 percent of the British Columbia population. The region consists of the flat lower Fraser Valley, associated uplands and the mountains that border them. It also encompasses that part of the adjacent mainland coast linked to Vancouver by the Coastal ferry system.

The Lower Mainland region is the leading centre for virtually every activity in the Province, from farming and fishing to manufacturing to services. Only the mining sector is poorly represented. Beyond the urban concentration of Greater Vancouver and its expanding

BRITISH COLUMBIA ECONOMIC REGIONS

ECONOMIC REGIONS

1. East Kootenay
2. Central Kootenay
3. Okanagan-Boundary
4. Lillooet-Thompson
5. Lower Mainland
6. Vancouver Island-Coast
7. Cariboo-Fort George
8. Peace River-Liard
9. Skeena-Stikine

suburbs, the resource industries are of greatest importance. As the financial, educational, manufacturing, tourism, transportation and cultural centre of the Province, the region benefits from all developments within its hinterland, which in many respects means all of Western Canada.

Vancouver Island and Coast Region

This region comprises all of Vancouver Island, numerous smaller islands and a remote and virtually uninhabited section of the mainland. Apart from a narrow coastal plain extending along the east coast of Vancouver Island, where the population is concentrated, rugged mountains predominate. The region covers 6.4 percent of the total area of the province and accounts for 18 percent of the population. Administratively it includes six Regional Districts.

The region is second only to the Lower Mainland in terms of both population and economic activity. Just over half of the region's population is concentrated in the Capital Regional District, which is dominated by Victoria, the provincial capital and a major trade, tourism and administration centre. Elsewhere the primary industries provide the main economic support with the forestry sector in the leading role. There are six pulp and paper mills on Vancouver Island; logging and sawmilling activity is widespread. Farming, fishing and mining (at Campbell River and Port Hardy) are well represented. Tourism and the retirement industry contribute to economic activity throughout the region.

Cariboo-Fort George Region

The Regional Districts of Bulkley-Nechako, Fraser-Fort George and Cariboo together represent 21.6 percent of the province's land area, and 6.8 percent of the population. Bounded by high mountains on the east and west, the region is primarily high, rolling to hilly plateau. It is heavily forested but lower elevations provide suitable conditions for raising beef cattle; the southern portion is the centre of cattle ranching in British Columbia. Forestry provides the main economic support throughout the region. Pulp mills are clustered at Quesnel (2) Prince George (3) and Mackenzie (2). Large open-pit mines are located near Williams Lake, Fraser Lake, Houston and Granisle and mineral exploration is widespread. The area around Quesnel has a long, rich history of gold mining. Prince George has developed as the leading trade, administration and manufacturing centre in the northern part of the Province on the strength of its central location on the rail and highway systems.

Peace River-Liard Region

This economic region encompasses only the Regional District of the same name. It represents 21.8 percent of the land area of the province but contains only 2 percent of the population. The terrain is largely flat, except for deeply cut rivers, rising to the peaks of the Rocky Mountains on the south and west. The central part of the region actually extends westward beyond the Rockies. Grain, forage and beef cattle traditionally provided the economic base of the triangle extending from Chetwynd to Dawson Creek and Fort St. John. In the past three decades the forest industries, oil and natural gas have provided much of the economic and population growth throughout the region. In the 1980's growth has been attributable to the development of coal mines south-west of Dawson Creek.

Skeena-Stikine Region

This region is by far the largest of the nine economic regions, covering 28 percent of the provincial land area. However, most of it is sparsely populated; the region includes only 2.6 percent of the provincial population and most of the residents are concentrated between Prince Rupert, Hazelton and Kitimat. The terrain ranges from broad valleys near sea level to rugged mountains to rolling plateau. The economy is equally diverse. The coastal communities rely heavily on fishing and fish processing. The forest industries are well represented, with extensive logging on the Queen Charlotte Islands and the southern half of the mainland portion. Pulp and paper mills are located at Prince Rupert and Kitimat, and sawmills at Terrace, Kitwanga and Hazelton. The mining industry has provided the main support for Stewart, Cassiar, Atlin, Dease Lake and Kitsault. Commercial farming is limited to a narrow strip from Terrace to Hazelton. Prince Rupert was originally the leading administrative centre for the region, but Terrace's role in this regard has been steadily increasing because of its more central location. Kitimat was established in the early 1950's to house Alcan's aluminum smelter complex but the local economy has broadened appreciably with the

addition of a pulp and paper mill and a methanol plant. A paper mill operated at Ocean Falls for half a century until it was closed recently, precipitating a sharp drop in population in the isolated, one-industry town.

The Land

GEOLOGY

The rock formations of British Columbia range in age from the Precambrian to recent. Some lava flows are only a few hundred years old.

The Precambrian era rocks, chiefly sedimentary, occur in the southeast part of the province. An extensive belt of metamorphic rock, schists and gneisses of undetermined age underlies the eastern part of the Interior Plateau and parts of the Monashee, Selkirk, Cariboo and Omineca Mountains.

Palaeozoic rocks form the main ranges of the Rocky Mountains. They underlie much of the country along and west of the Rocky Mountain Trench. Late Palaeozoic era sedimentary and volcanic rocks are exposed in a narrow belt extending northward along the Fraser River to the Omineca Mountains. Similar rocks occur in the northwest, between Atlin and Teslin Lakes.

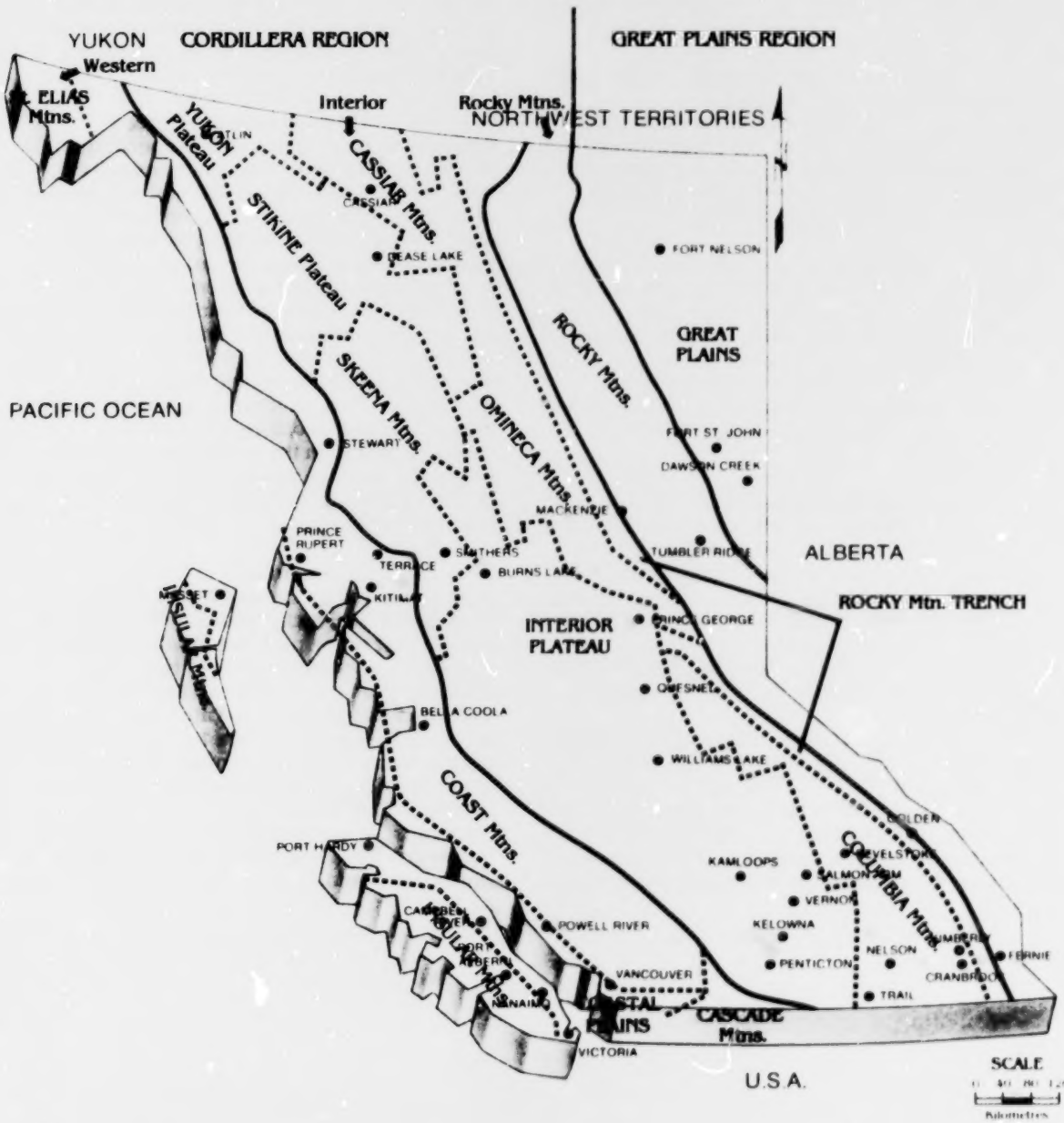
Rocks of the Mesozoic age are widespread. Sedimentary and volcanic formations occur throughout the central part of the province between the Coast Mountains and the Rocky Mountain Trench, and on Vancouver and Queen Charlotte Islands. Mesozoic stratified sedimentary rocks, mainly Cretaceous in age, occur east of the Rocky Mountain Foothills and along the east coast of Vancouver Island.

Granitic intrusions, ranging from small plutons to large composite batholiths of Mesozoic and Early Tertiary age, are widespread. They intrude older rocks in a belt corresponding to the Coast Mountains, in another belt corresponding to the Omineca-Cassiar Mountains, and in an area extending across the southern part of the province between the Fraser River and Kootenay Lake. Tertiary rocks, mostly lava flows and associated volcanics, overlie older formations in the Interior Plateau, Stikine Plateau, and on Graham Island.

Mineral deposits are widespread throughout the province with copper forming the greatest number. It occurs as massive sulphide deposits in the Coast and Insular belts, in porphyries in the Interior belt, and in widely distributed skarn deposits. Copper, molybdenum and tungsten are associated in porphyry deposits in the Interior. Lead-zinc mineralization occurs as stratiform deposits in the late Precambrian and Cambrian rocks of southeastern British Columbia. Silver and silver-lead-zinc veins are localized in the Slocan area. Iron, as magnetite, occurs mainly in skarns in the Insular belt or associated with porphyry copper in the Interior belt. Gold is widely dispersed in veins and as an accessory in other classes of deposits throughout all mineralized regions.

Significant quantities of oil and gas occur in the Palaeozoic and Mesozoic formations east of the Rocky Mountains in the northeastern part of the province. Some petroleum exploration and drilling activity has been undertaken on the continental shelf west of Vancouver Island and in Hecate Strait, and in various parts of the Interior, but no commercial discoveries have been made to date west of the Rockies. Extensive coal reserves are present in Cretaceous rocks of the Rocky Mountains, in isolated coal basins in central British Columbia and along the east coast of Vancouver Island.

PHYSIOGRAPHY



PHYSIOGRAPHY

British Columbia, the westernmost province in Canada, has a diverse physiography composed of the Cordillera and Great Plains Regions. The Cordillera in British Columbia consists of three broad units — the Western System, the Interior System of scattered plateaux and mountains, and the Rocky Mountain System in the east.

The Western System consists of: (1) the Insular Mountains appearing in the Queen Charlotte Islands and Vancouver Island, and the St. Elias Mountains in the northwest corner of the province where Mt. Fairweather (4,663 metres), the highest peak, is found; (2) the Coastal trough forming the east coastal plain of Vancouver Island and the delta plain of the Fraser River; (3) the Coast Mountains which extend northwesterly and average 160 kilometres wide; and (4) the Cascade Mountains which rise to the east and south of the Fraser River in the southeast corner of the Western System.

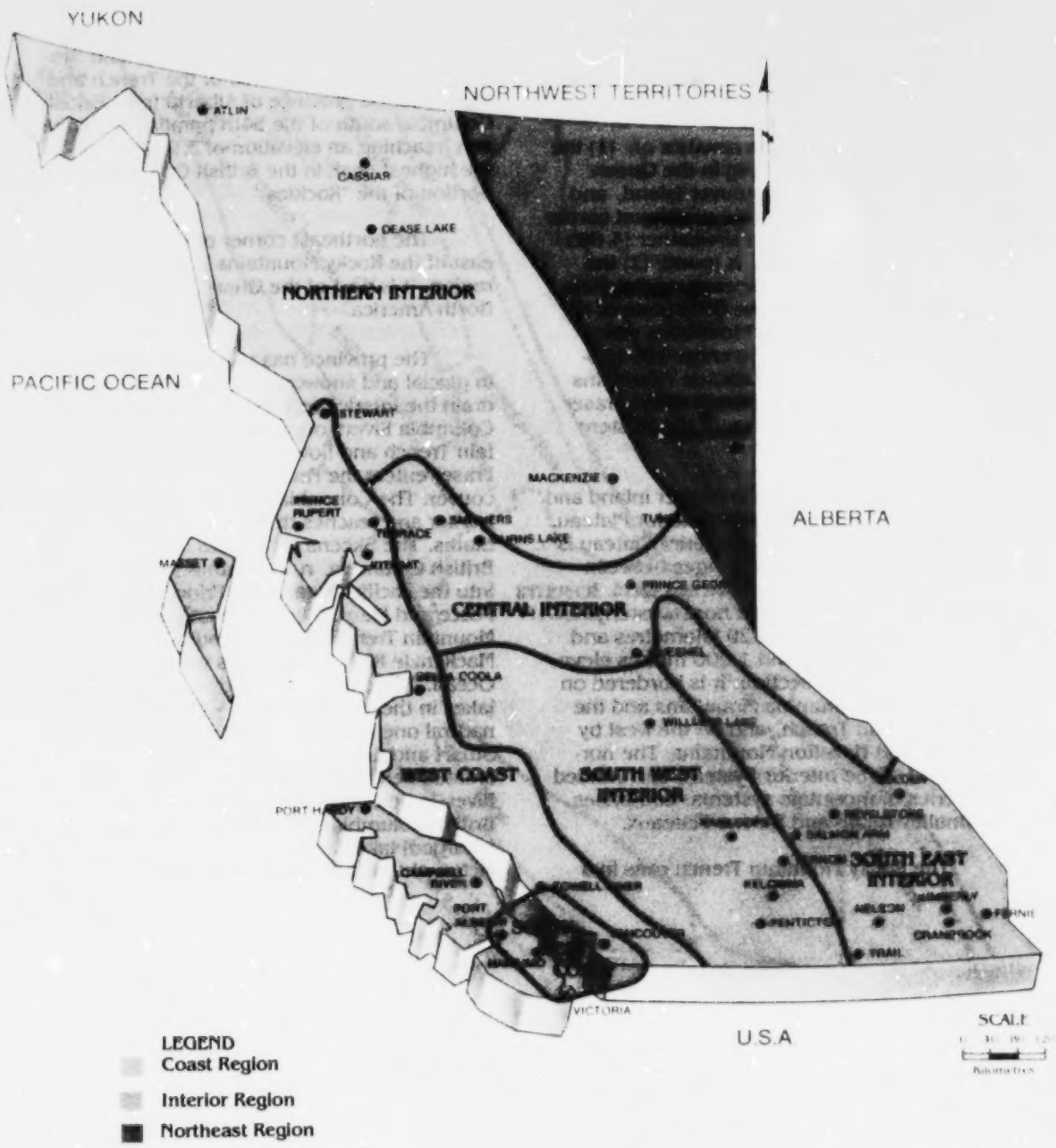
The Interior System is further inland and is dominated by the extensive Interior Plateau. The southern section of the Interior Plateau is 50-65 kilometres wide and ranges between 1,200 and 1,800 metres above sea level. It extends 800 kilometres in a northwesterly direction, broadening to 320 kilometres and ranging between 600 and 1,200 metres elevation in the northern section. It is bordered on the east by the Columbia Mountains and the Rocky Mountain Trench, and on the west by the Coast and Hazelton Mountains. The northern third of the Interior System, surrounded by a series of mountain systems, comprises the smaller Yukon and Stikine Plateaux.

The Rocky Mountain Trench runs in a northwesterly direction to the Yukon border from the southeast sector of the province. It is 3 to 25 kilometres wide and contains a series of rivers and lakes as well as the Peace River reservoir (Lake Williston) and Mica reservoir (McNaughton Lake). The Rocky Mountain System forms the eastern wall of the Trench and separates the province of Alberta from British Columbia south of the 54th parallel. Mt. Robson, reaching an elevation of 3,957 metres, is the highest peak in the British Columbia portion of the "Rockies."

The northeast corner of the province east of the Rocky Mountains is a relatively flat region. It is part of the Great Coastal Plains of North America.

The province has many rivers which rise in glacial and snowcapped mountains and drain the interior regions. The Fraser and Columbia Rivers originate in the Rocky Mountain Trench and flow southwestward. The Fraser enters the Pacific Ocean near Vancouver. The Columbia extends south of the border and reaches the ocean in the United States. The Skeena River rises in north central British Columbia, runs southwest and empties into the Pacific Ocean near Prince Rupert. The Peace and Liard Rivers originate in the Rocky Mountain Trench and are tributaries of the Mackenzie River which flows north to the Arctic Ocean. There are many large and beautiful lakes in the province. Some of the largest natural ones include: Babine, Kootenay, Atlin, Stuart and Okanagan Lakes. Williston Lake, created behind Bennett Dam on the Peace River, is now the largest body of water in British Columbia. Other large man-made (or enlarged) lakes include the Nechako reservoir, McNaughton Lake and Arrow Lakes.

CLIMATE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PACIFIC OCEAN
STEWART
MACKENZIE
PRINCE RUPERT
TERRACE
BURNS LAKE
MASSET
ALBERTA
CENTRAL INTERIOR
WEST COAST
SOUTH WEST INTERIOR
SOUTH EAST INTERIOR
PORT HARDY
CAMPBELL RIVER
VICTORIA
U.S.A
SCALE
LEGEND
Coast Region
Interior Region
Northeast Region

CLIMATE

The Coast Region has the abundant rainfall and mild temperatures associated with a maritime climate. Considerable variation does occur due to the terrain, high mountains and long fiords. Annual precipitation on the West Coast ranges from 130 to 380 centimetres. The heaviest rain occurs on the windward slopes in the fall and winter months. The leeward slopes record lowest annual rainfalls. The range in temperature is smallest on the outer coast due to the maritime effect. The sheltered inner coasts are warm in summer and cool in winter. There is also a distinct variation from south to north.

The Southwest coast, consisting of the Lower Mainland and the southeast coast of Vancouver Island, has a pleasant climate. Approximately 65 to 130 centimetres of rain falls per year, mostly in the fall and winter. Victoria averages approximately 75 centimetres of rain a year compared to Vancouver which receives 150 centimetres annually. Summer is often a period of relative drought. The area has a long frost-free season and mild winters.

The Interior Region, lying east of the coastal mountains and west of the Rockies, has a predominantly continental type of climate. It is not as rigorous as the Canadian Prairies, except for the northern section. Considerable variation in climate occurs, especially in winter, as Pacific storms bring relief from cold spells.

The Southwest Interior, lying just east of the high coastal mountains, has the driest and warmest climate of the whole province. Annual precipitation ranges from less than 25 centimetres to about 50 centimetres in the valleys. Temperatures in summer may reach 38 degrees Celsius. The coldest winter months have mean temperatures below zero degrees Celsius.

The Southeast Interior, made up of the Columbia Mountain System and associated valleys, has a more extreme climate than the Southwest Interior. Although precipitation in the valleys is fairly light, falls on the ridges are heavy. Mountain passes may receive well over 500 centimetres of snow in a season. Temperature ranges are typical of a continental climate, from below zero degrees Celsius in the winter to 38 degrees Celsius in the summer.

The Central Interior has a distinct continental climate, with more extreme temperatures and higher precipitation than in the south. Temperature extremes range from 32 degrees Celsius in summer to as low as minus 40 degrees Celsius in winter. Annual precipitation ranges from 50 to 75 centimetres, while snowfall totals approximately 190 centimetres for the winter season. The frost-free period is short.

The Northern Interior is a vast area and limited factual meteorological data on the area is available. Long, cold winters and short, cool summers are characteristic of the area. Precipitation is lightest in the western lee sections of the coastal mountains and heaviest in the foothills and slopes of the Rockies.

The Northeast Region of the province is a northern extension of the western prairie region of Alberta. It has a continental climate that is more extreme than the Northern Interior region. However, it does have long hot summers and a frost-free period long enough to grow crops.

BIOGEOCLIMATIC ZONES, VEGETATION TYPES AND WILDLIFE

The natural environment of British Columbia is influenced by the prevailing westerly winds. The winds create a series of wet and dry seasons. The result is numerous and distinct biogeoclimatic zones and forest types. The zones include the following:

Coastal Western Hemlock Zone

Marine humid climate to the west of the Coast Range lying between sea level and 305 metres in the north and sea level to 915 metres in the south. Annual precipitation is 180 to 280 centimetres in the dry subzone and 280 to 660 centimetres in the wet subzone. Most precipitation occurs from fall to spring although summers are also wet. There are 4 to 6 months when the temperature is above 10 degrees Celsius and as many as 3 months when the temperature is less than 0 degrees Celsius. The predominant trees include: western hemlock, western red cedar, with Douglas fir in the dry subzone and Amabilis fir in the wet subzone.

Coastal Douglas Fir Zone

Mediterranean subhumid climate occurring in the rain shadow of Vancouver Island and Washington State's Olympic Mountains. This zone lies roughly between sea level and 450 metres elevation in the north and to 150 metres in the south. Annual precipitation is 70 to 130 centimetres occurring mainly from September to April. There are 5 to 7 months when average temperatures are above 10 degrees Celsius and none when they are below 0 degrees Celsius. The dominant trees include: Douglas fir, grand fir and western red cedar.

Interior Western Hemlock Zone

Continental humid climate in the Selkirk Mountains of southeast British Columbia. This zone lies roughly between 430 to 1,340 metres above sea level. Annual precipitation is 50 to 115 centimetres in the dry subzone and 115 to 180 centimetres in the wet subzone. Precipitation falls mainly in winter, although summers are moist and humid. There are 3 to 5 months when temperatures are above 10 degrees Celsius and 3 to 5 months when they are below 0 degrees Celsius. The dominant trees include: western hemlock, western red cedar, Douglas fir, white pine, western larch and grand fir.

Interior Douglas Fir Zone

Montane forests lying between the Ponderosa Pine Bunchgrass Zone and the Interior Western Hemlock Zone in the north. This zone lies between the elevations of 460 to 915 metres in the north and 305 to 1,340 metres in the south. Annual precipitation, 40 to 56 centimetres, falls mainly in winter; summers are very dry. There are 5 to 6 months with temperatures above 10 degrees Celsius and 2 to 4 months with temperatures less than 0 degrees Celsius. The dominant trees include: Douglas fir, Ponderosa pine, often with western larch and western cedar.

Cariboo Aspen — Lodgepole Pine — Douglas Fir Parkland Zone

Cool continental climate in the central part of the Interior Plateau — associated with range land. This zone extends from the elevations of 520 to 915 metres. Annual precipitation is 36 to 50 centimetres and falls mainly in the winter. There are 3 to 5 months with temperatures greater than 10 degress Celsius and 4 to 5 months with temperatures less than 0 degrees Celsius. The dominant trees include: Douglas fir, Englemann and white spruce, lodgepole pine and trembling aspen.

Ponderosa Pine — Bunchgrass Zone

Lowland semi-arid parkland lying between 275 and 830 metres. Annual precipitation is 18 to 36 centimetres and occurs mainly in the winter. There are 5 to 7 months with temperatures greater than 10 degrees Celsius and 2 to 4 months with temperatures less than 0 degrees Celsius. The dominant tree is the Ponderosa pine in open grassy stands.

Englemann Spruce — Alpine Fir Zone

The most widely representative zone in British Columbia with Subalpine coniferous climate. This zone lies between the elevations of 900 and 1,700 metres in the north and 1,200 to 2,300 metres in the south. Annual precipitation of 40 to 180 centimetres falls mainly in the winter. Summers are cool and moist. There are 2 to 4 months with temperatures greater than 10 degrees Celsius and 5 to 6 months with temperatures less than 0 degrees Celsius. The dominant trees include: Englemann spruce, alpine fir and alpine larch.

Sub-boreal Spruce Zone

Coniferous forest in continental humid climate lying between the elevations of 335 and 855 metres. Annual precipitation is 40 to 65 centimetres and occurs mainly in the winter months. Summers are cool and moist. There are 5 months when temperatures are below 0 degrees Celsius. The dominant trees include: white spruce; lodgepole pine, alpine fir, black spruce and tamarack are also present.

Boreal Spruce Zone

Coniferous forest under cold continental climate, lying between the elevations of 150 and 860 metres. Annual precipitation of 30 to 60 centimetres is concentrated mainly in the winter months. The summers are cold and wet. There are 2 to 5 months when temperatures are greater than 10 degrees Celsius and 5 to 7 months when they are less than 0 degrees Celsius. The dominant trees include: white and black spruce, tamarack, jack pine and in southern parts, lodgepole pine. Paper birch is also common.

Alpine Zone

Continental cold to subarctic tundra climate. This zone lies between the elevations of 760 metres in the north and 2,290 metres in the southeast. Annual precipitation is 75 centimetres in the north and 280 centimetres in the west. Temperatures are greater than 10 degrees Celsius for five months of the year and less than 0 degrees Celsius for the rest. The dominant trees are sub-alpine species in scrub patches.

Wildlife

British Columbia wildlife resources are extensive and varied. Few areas of North America offer such a wide range of animal life. Big-game mammals include four species of deer, two species of elk, several of sheep (including California bighorn, Rocky Mountain bighorn, Stone and Dall sheep), moose, caribou, grizzly and black bear, mountain goat, wolf and cougar. Fur-bearing animals include beaver, fisher, red fox, lynx, marten, mink, muskrat, otter, weasel and wolverine. The principal game-bird species include Blue, Willow, and Sharptailed grouse, pheasants, ducks, geese, and chukar. Sport fishing offers salmon, trout, bass and several other species. All of British Columbia's wildlife is administered under the terms of the Wildlife Act.

The People

GOVERNMENT

British Columbia was officially proclaimed a province by Frederick Seymour, Governor of British Columbia, with the Union Proclamation of 1866. This united the Crown Colonies of Vancouver Island and British Columbia. Parliamentary government was implemented on August 12, 1856, in the first Legislative Assembly of the Colony of Vancouver Island. On July 20, 1871, fully responsible government was achieved when British Columbia entered Confederation.

The main document of the Canadian Constitution from 1867 to 1982 was the British North America (BNA) Act. This Act defined the major institutions of Parliament and provincial legislatures, and the division of authority between the federal government and the provinces. All matters of national concern such as defence, postal service, banking and currency were under federal jurisdiction.

In 1982 the BNA Act was incorporated into a new Act, the Constitutional Act, by a constitutional resolution passed by the Canadian Parliament. The Canada Act, 1982, put an end to the power of the British Parliament to legislate for Canada and added the following new provisions to our Constitution:

- a charter of Rights and Freedom recognizing the supremacy of God and the rule of law. It protects the rights Canadians traditionally have enjoyed and recognizes important new rights.
- recognition of Canada's multicultural heritage.
- affirmation of the existing rights of the native peoples.
- the principle of equalization, referring to the long-standing tradition of sharing wealth among the provinces through federal payments, and commits governments to provide all Canadians with a reasonable level of public services.
- provisions confirming and strengthening the provincial ownership of resources.
- an amending procedure ensuring all changes to the Constitution will be made in Canada.

The major difference between the Canadian Constitution of 1982 and the BNA Act of 1867 is the fact the new Constitution will be adapted to meet Canada's changing needs and circumstances. The Constitution, unlike the BNA Act, is not under the jurisdiction of another country.

The people of British Columbia are currently represented federally by 28 Members of Parliament and 6 senators. The total number of seats in the House of Commons is currently 282 and, in the Senate, 104 seats.

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

The provincial government has three branches: the Legislature, the Executive, and the Judiciary.

The Legislature

The Legislature consists of the Lieutenant-Governor and 57 members of the Legislative Assembly who are elected for a maximum term of five years. The members represent the people in the conduct of the business of the province. The Legislative Assembly is required by law to meet at lease once a year. Normal sessions last several months. Special sessions last from a few days to several months, depending on the amount of business before the members.

The Executive

The Executive branch is composed of the Lieutenant-Governor and the Executive Council. The Lieutenant-Governor is appointed by the Governor General of Canada, usually for a term of five years. He is the head of the Executive Government of the province. The Lieutenant-Governor appoints member of the Executive Council (or Cabinet) on the advice of the Premier of the province (who is normally the leader of the political party having the support of the largest number of members elected to the Legislative Assembly). He is guided by their advice as long as they retain the confidence of the Legislative Assembly. He assents to all measures or bills passed by the Legislative Assembly before they become law. The present Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia is the Honourable Robert Gordon

Rogers. The official residence of the Lieutenant-Governor, Government House, is located in Victoria, the capital of British Columbia.

The Premier and his Cabinet Ministers comprise the Executive Council, otherwise known as the Cabinet. The Cabinet determines the Government policy and is responsible to the Legislative Assembly for the operation of the Government. Cabinet members are appointed from the Legislative Assembly and usually head government ministries.

A Deputy Minister is the permanent head of each ministry. He is responsible for carrying out the policy of the Government and for administering the work of his ministry. A total of 33,437 employees were employed (full-time equivalent basis) in British Columbia Government services as of April, 1984.

The Judiciary

The third important branch of government is the Judiciary or the system of courts. The Provincial Legislatures and the Parliament of Canada have the power to make laws in Canada. The interpretation of these laws and the settlement of disputes under these laws are the responsibility of the Judiciary.

Under the terms of the Constitution, legislation concerning criminal law is under the jurisdiction of the Parliament of Canada. Provincial Legislatures are empowered to enact laws considered desirable for the protection of civil and property rights within its boundaries. Municipal or civic authorities are empowered to pass laws known as by-laws, which apply to their particular municipality, under authority given by the Provincial Legislature.

The judicial system in British Columbia is composed of the following: the Court of Appeal, the Supreme Court, County Courts, and various Provincial courts, including Magistrates' Courts and Small Claims Courts.

The Federal courts include the Supreme Court of Canada and the Federal Court of Canada. The Supreme Court of Canada is the court of final resort in Canada. It hears appeals from Provincial Supreme Courts and the Federal Court of Canada.

Local Government

There are several types of local or municipal government. They vary in size and structure depending on the needs of the community.

An Improvement District is the simplest form of local government. It provides a single service such as garbage collection, fire protection, or water supply. Village municipalities have a population range of 500 to 2,500 persons. In addition to providing services a village municipality can also regulate the conduct of persons by passing by-laws. Towns have a population of between 2,500 and 5,000 persons and have the further responsibility of social rehabilitation. Cities have greater powers and responsibilities, such as providing police protection. District municipalities encompass rural or suburban areas and have responsibilities and powers similar to those of cities.

Regional Districts are a relatively new form of government. They are designed to enable a group of municipal governments to provide common services on a shared basis, plus general regional services and local services in non-municipal areas. The municipalities and non-municipal areas in a Regional District are represented on a Regional Board.

Revenue for municipal services is derived mainly from property taxation and provincial grants. Additional revenue is obtained from licence fees, business taxes, and public utility projects.

Finance

Total provincial revenues and expenditures, including all capital expenditures, for the fiscal years ended March 31, 1980 to 1983 are as follows:

COMPARATIVE REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
(Millions of Dollars)

	1979-80	1980-81	1981-82	1982-83
Total General Fund and Special Purpose Funds Revenue	5,705	5,803	6,903	6,529
Total General Fund and Special Purpose Funds Expenditure	5,163	6,059	7,087	7,513

Source: Ministry of Finance, 1983 Financial and Economic Review

COMBINED GENERAL AND SPECIAL PURPOSE FUNDS REVENUE BY FUNCTION
(Millions of Dollars)

Expenditure Function	1982-83[1]
General Government	350
Protection of Persons and Property	343
Transportation and Communication	594
Health and Social Services	3,427
Recreational and Cultural Services	57
Education	1,669
Natural Resources and Primary Industries	455
Trade and Industrial Development	58
Housing	120
Aid to Local Government	307
Interest on Public Debt	28
Other Expenditure	105
Total Combined Expenditure	7,513

[1] Fiscal year ending March 31, 1983
Source: Ministry of Finance, 1983 Financial and Economic Review

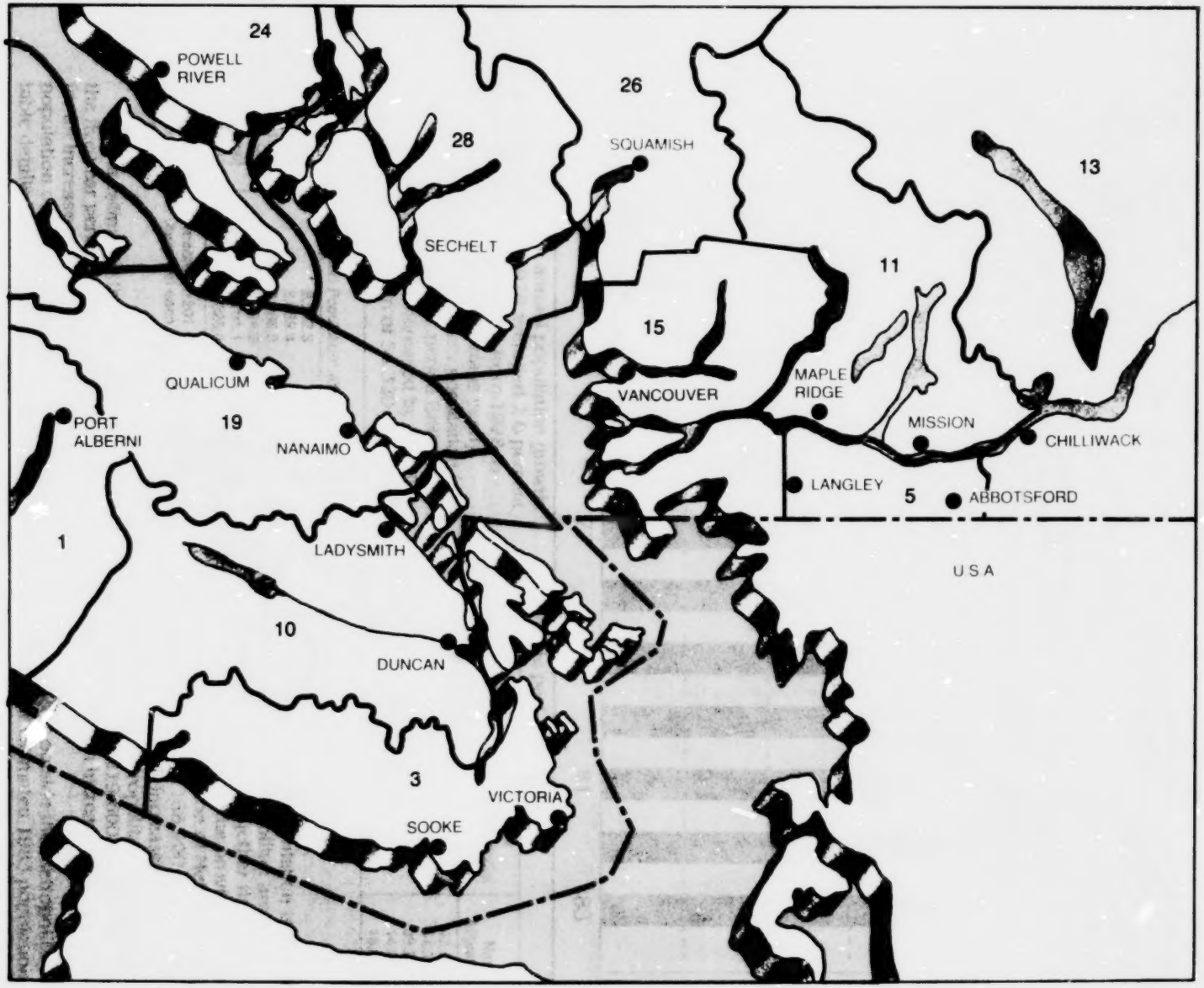
COMBINED GENERAL AND SPECIAL PURPOSE FUNDS REVENUE BY SOURCE
(Millions of Dollars)

Revenue Source	1982-83[1]
Taxes	3,870
Motor-vehicle Licences and other Permits	146
Natural Resource	543
Contributions from other governments	1,234
Contributions from government enterprises	338
Sales and Services	150
Fines and Penalties	15
Interest from Investments	91
Miscellaneous	142
Total Gross Revenue	6,529

[1] Fiscal year ending March 31, 1983
Source: Ministry of Finance, 1983 Financial and Economic Review

CENSUS DIVISIONS

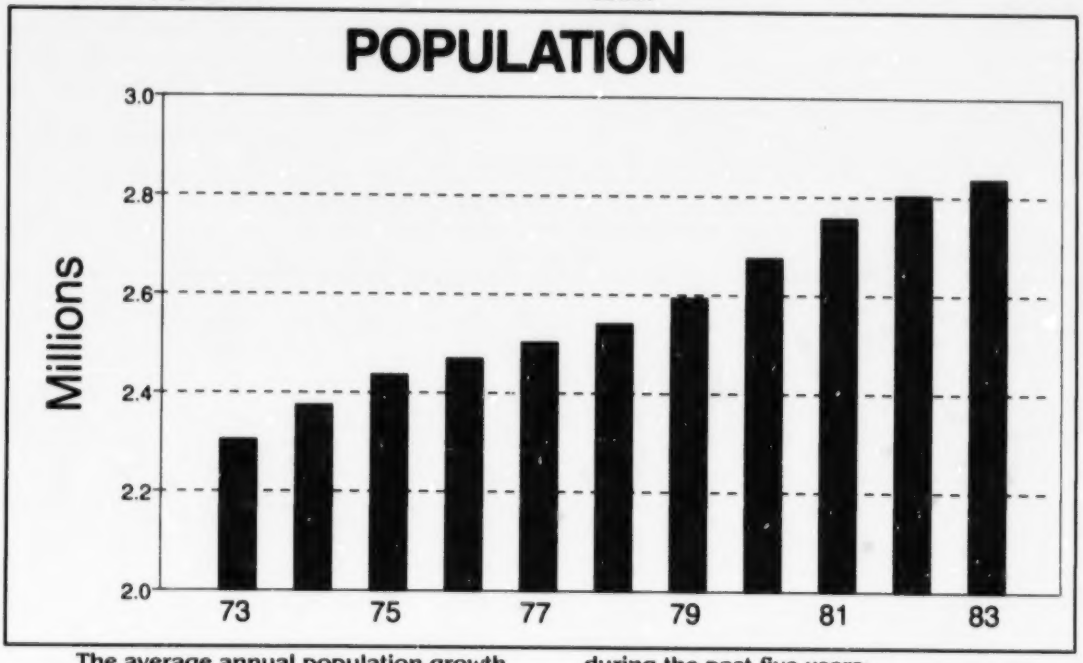
1. Alberni—Clayoquot
2. Bulkley-Nechako
3. Capital
4. Cariboo
5. Central Fraser Valley
6. Central Kootenay
7. Central Okanagan
8. Columbia-Shuswap
9. Comox-Strathcona
10. Cowichan Valley
11. Dewdney-Alouette
12. East Kootenay
13. Fraser-Cheam
14. Fraser-Fort George
15. Greater Vancouver
16. Kitimat-Stikine
17. Kootenay Boundary
18. Mount Waddington
19. Nanaimo
20. North Okanagan
21. Ocean Falls
22. Okanagan-Similkameen
23. Peace River-Liard
24. Powell River
25. Skeena-Queen Charlotte
26. Squamish-Lillooet
27. Stikine Region (unincorporated)
28. Sunshine Coast
29. Thompson-Nicola


24
POWELL RIVER
26
28
SQUAMISH
13
SECHELT
11
15
QUALICUM
VANCOUVER
MAPLE RIDGE
PORT ALBERNI
19
NANAIMO
MISSION
CHILLIWACK
LANGLEY
5
ABBOTSFORD
1
LADYSMITH
U S A
10
DUNCAN
3
VICTORIA
SOOKE

POPULATION

- Estimated population as of January 1, 1984 was 2,854,000 persons.
- British Columbia contains 11 percent of the Canadian population.

The estimated population of British Columbia on June 1, 1983 was 2,825,000. The following graph displays British Columbia's population growth from 1973 to 1983:



The average annual population growth rate from 1973 to 1978 averaged 2.0 percent as compared to 2.1 percent from 1978 to 1983. The following table details yearly changes in British Columbia's population from 1978 to 1983. During this period British Columbia's population increased by 281,600 people, an average gain of 56,320 per year.

Year	Estimated Population[1] (000's)	Percent Change
1978	2,542.3	1.7
1979	2,589.4	1.9
1980	2,666.0	3.0
1981	2,744.2	2.9
1982	2,791.1	1.7
1983	2,825.0	1.2

Source: Statistics Canada, 91-201
[1] Estimates are for June 1 of each year. 1981 was a Census year.

It is estimated that net migration during the five-year period 1979 to 1983 accounted for an increase of 172,615 persons in the population of British Columbia. The following table details net migration for British Columbia during the past five years:

Year	Net International Migration	Net Interprovincial Migration	Net Migration
1979	10,617	33,241	43,858
1980	19,170	40,165	54,335
1981	16,370	19,885	36,255
1982	12,147	2,068	14,215
1983	7,639	11,313	18,952

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM

British Columbia's population is heavily concentrated in the metropolitan areas of Vancouver and Victoria. Together they comprise 54.9 percent of the province's total population. The population of Metropolitan Vancouver rose from 1,188,900 in 1978 to 1,310,000 in 1983, an increase of 10.2 percent. The Victoria metropolitan area population increased from 219,600 in 1978 to 240,400 in 1983, an increase of 9.5 percent.

Major cities outside the metropolitan areas, with their estimated 1983 population in

brackets, include: Prince George (68,628); Kamloops (64,434); Kelowna (60,827); and Nanaimo (49,347).

The majority of British Columbia residents reside in incorporated municipalities — 83.2 percent — while 15.0 percent live in non-municipal (unorganized) areas and 1.8 percent live on Indian Reserves.

Regional Districts with the highest rate of population increase between 1978 and 1983 include: Nanaimo on Vancouver Island, 25.6 percent; the Central Fraser Valley, located to the east of the Greater Vancouver Regional District, 24.8 percent; and Peace River-Liard, which includes the cities of Fort St. John and Dawson Creek, 22.3 percent.

The following tables show the distribution of British Columbia's population by age groups and sex in 1983 and by sub-provincial regions from 1981 to 1983:

BRITISH COLUMBIA PRELIMINARY POPULATION ESTIMATES BY AGE GROUPS AND SEX, 1983[1]
(Thousands)

Age Group	Male	Female	Total	Percent Distribution
Under 5	101.5	97.5	198.9	7.0
5 - 14	201.0	190.9	392.0	13.9
15 - 24	243.0	236.5	479.5	17.0
25 - 34	249.8	251.9	501.7	17.8
35 - 44	194.3	187.2	381.5	13.5
45 - 54	146.1	138.0	284.1	10.1
55 - 64	127.8	139.9	267.7	9.5
65 and over	139.2	179.3	318.6	11.3
TOTAL	1,402.8	1,421.1	2,823.9	100.0

Source: Statistics Canada

BRITISH COLUMBIA POPULATION ESTIMATES BY SUBPROVINCIAL REGIONS AND METROPOLITAN AREAS
(Thousands)

Area	Population			Percent Distribution 1983	Percent Change 1981-83
	1981	1982[1]	1983[1]		
SUBPROVINCIAL REGIONS					
East Kootenay	53.7	56.4	57.4	2.0	6.9
Central Kootenay	92.2	94.9	96.4	3.4	4.6
Okanagan Boundary	230.0	235.3	237.6	8.4	3.3
Lillooet-Thompson	120.9	122.5	122.6	4.3	1.4
Lower Mainland	1,438.6	1,455.9	1,477.8	52.3	2.7
Vancouver Island and Coast	495.1	504.3	509.7	18.0	2.9
Cariboo-Fort George	187.0	191.4	192.1	6.8	2.7
Peace River-Liard	55.5	55.9	56.9	2.0	2.5
Skeena-Stikine	71.4	73.3	73.4	2.6	2.8
METROPOLITAN AREAS					
Vancouver	1,268.1	1,283.0	1,310.6	46.4	3.4
Victoria	233.5	236.4	240.4	8.5	3.0
British Columbia	2,744.2	2,790.1	2,823.9	100.0	2.9

Source: Statistics Canada
[1] These tables are based on preliminary population estimates and the total population shown for 1982 and 1983 differs slightly from the revised estimates shown in the first table of this section.

LABOUR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, AND INCOME

- 1983 labour force averaged 1,389,000 persons.
- Total employment in 1983 averaged 1,197,000 persons.
- Average weekly earnings in 1983 amounted to $423.56.

Labour Force and Employment

British Columbia's labour force continues to grow more rapidly than that for Canada as a whole. The overall average annual growth rate over the last ten years was 3.5 percent. This figure reflects a relatively rapid growth in the female labour force, which increased by 5.4 percent on average annually, and a growth rate of 2.4 percent in the male labour force. The following tables detail the growth of the male and female labour force in British Columbia and Canada from 1973 to 1983:

MALE AND FEMALE LABOUR FORCE IN BRITISH COLUMBIA (000's)

Year	British Columbia				Canada
	Total	Male	Female	Female as % of total	Female as % of total
1973	987	644	343	34.8	35.6
1974	1,040	670	370	35.6	36.1
1975	1,087	680	407	37.4	36.9
1976	1,117	694	422	37.8	37.6
1977	1,148	713	435	37.9	38.1
1978	1,202	731	471	39.2	38.9
1979	1,239	751	488	39.4	39.4
1980	1,301	785	516	39.7	40.1
1981	1,361	806	555	40.8	40.8
1982	1,370	803	567	41.4	41.2
1983	1,389	812	577	41.5	41.7

ANNUAL AVERAGE LABOUR FORCE GROWTH RATES, 1973-1983 (Percent)

Area	Total	Male	Female
British Columbia	3.5	2.4	5.4
Canada	2.8	1.7	4.4

Source: Statistics Canada, 71-201

The age distribution of the British Columbia labour force is similar to that found in the Canadian labour force as a whole. The following table details the age distribution of the British Columbia and Canada labour force in 1983:

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF THE BRITISH COLUMBIA AND CANADA LABOUR FORCE, 1983

Age Group	British Columbia		Canada	
	(000's)	Percent	(000's)	Percent
15 - 19	121	8.7	1,076	8.8
20 - 24	194	14.0	1,840	15.1
25 - 44	705	50.8	6,057	49.7
45 - 64	349	25.1	3,020	24.8
65 +	19	1.4	190	1.6
Total	1,389	100.0	12,183	100.0

Source: Statistics Canada, 71-001

One of the most important attributes of any labour force is its quality of skills and education. British Columbia's labour force is one of the most versatile and best-educated in Canada. In 1983 approximately 37 percent of the labour force in the province had at least some post-secondary education compared with 35 percent for Canada as a whole. The following table details British Columbia's labour force by level of education for 1983:

BRITISH COLUMBIA LABOUR FORCE BY LEVEL OF EDUCATION
1983

Level of Education	Labour Force			
	Number (000's)	Employed (000's)	Unemployed (000's)	Unemployment Rate Percent
1. 0-8 years	108	91	16	15.2
2. Some high school and no post-secondary	768	646	122	15.9
3. Some post-secondary	181	156	25	14.0
4. Post-secondary certificate or diploma	156	139	17	10.7
5. University degree	176	165	12	6.5
Total	1,389	1,197	192	13.8

Source: Statistics Canada, 71-529

Nearly three-quarters of British Columbia workers are employed by non-goods producing industries, within which the service sector provides one out of every three jobs in the province. Unemployment averaged 13.8 percent in 1983, exceeding that found in the Prairies, Ontario, and Nova Scotia but lower than that of Quebec, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland. The unemployment rate averaged 8.7 percent during the past 10 years, ranging from a low of 6.2 percent in 1974 to the high recorded in 1983.

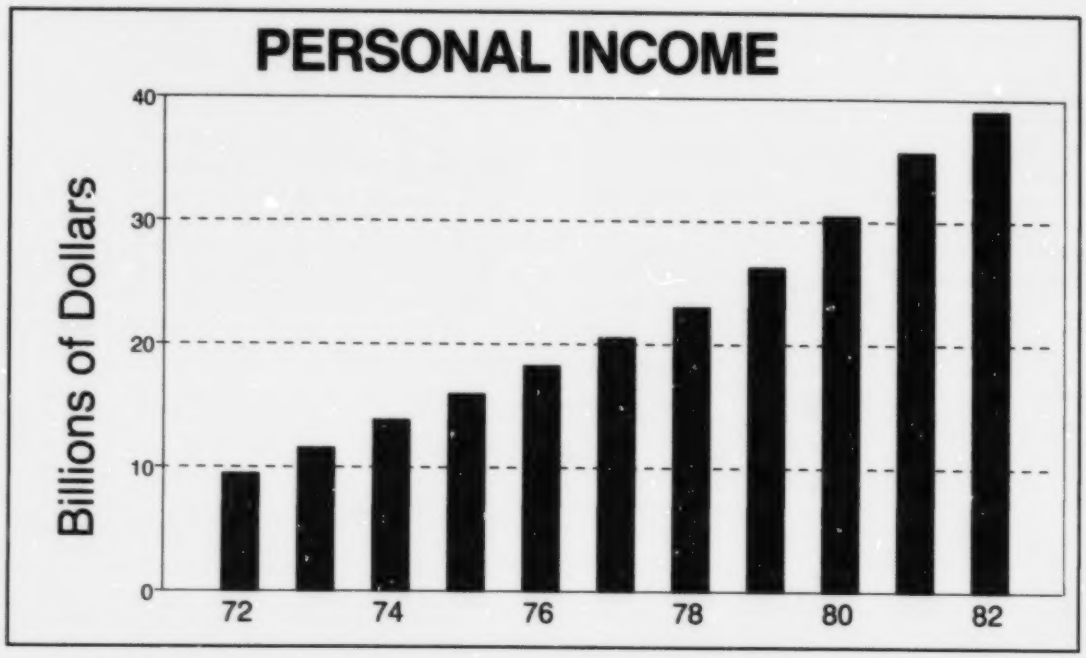
EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY IN BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1980-1983
(000's)

Industry	1980	1981	1982	1983
Agriculture	22	26	30	33
Other Primary	59	62	47	53
Manufacturing	178	184	159	151
Construction	80	93	77	70
Transportation, Communication and Other Utilities	118	129	125	124
Trade	227	231	220	211
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	74	72	77	74
Service	372	391	384	400
Public Administration	82	82	84	81
Total	1,213	1,270	1,204	1,197

Source: Statistics Canada, 71,529

Income

Total personal income in British Columbia was estimated at $38.5 billion in 1982. This amounted to $13,811 per capita. Total personal income has grown at an average annual compound rate of 15.1 percent since 1972. The increasing level of personal income in the province is depicted in the following graph:



British Columbia enjoys the nation's highest level of wages and salaries per employed person, as illustrated by the following table which compares income levels in British Columbia with other Canadian regions for 1982:

REGIONAL INCOME DISTRIBUTION, 1982
(Dollars)

Area	Per Capita Personal Income	Wages and Salaries Per Employed Person
British Columbia	13,811	18,975
Alberta	14,025	18,211
Saskatchewan	12,372	14,218
Manitoba	11,987	15,982
Ontario	13,842	18,619
Quebec	12,021	17,139
Maritimes	8,390	14,996
CANADA	12,839	17,772

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM

A steady increase in average weekly earnings in British Columbia over the past 10 years is revealed in the following table:

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS BY INDUSTRY IN BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1973-1983
(Dollars)

Year	Forestry[1]	Mining	Manufacturing	Construction	Trade	Service	Industrial Composite
1973	225.05	227.00	193.27	246.59	148.10	119.17	178.29
1974	247.48	262.28	217.70	282.75	167.14	132.75	200.48
1975	278.13	297.51	252.77	344.41	190.08	149.38	229.97
1976	327.38	330.66	288.34	378.23	212.20	169.32	259.52
1977	350.11	359.60	314.65	424.69	231.00	182.09	284.13
1978	382.21	383.41	339.66	476.66	236.08	189.21	301.26
1979	416.70	426.60	369.52	515.94	256.46	202.50	327.14
1980	479.70	484.36	411.90	546.96	285.31	225.15	363.50
1981	539.22	564.92	458.52	625.30	316.43	252.81	407.03
1982	589.87	616.34	510.82	661.14	342.87	278.97	445.43
1983[2]	591.40	544.25	522.85	565.54	321.21	344.35	423.56

Sources: 1973 to 1982, Statistics Canada, 72-002
1983 - estimated by the Central Statistics Bureau, based on Statistics Canada 72-002 and unpublished data
[1] Includes logging and forestry services but excludes forestry-based manufacturing which is included in manufacturing.
[2] 1983 average values are based on a revised survey and are not comparable to pre-1983 values.

EDUCATION

The public education system in British Columbia had its formal beginning in 1872 with passage of the Public Schools Act. In the 1872-73 school year total enrolment was slightly over 1,000, average attendance 575, and the total budget only $40,000. Today the total cost of education (public school and post-secondary) has grown to more than $1.8 billion. In 1983, enrolment in public schools totalled 496,843.

The following table provides further information on the enrolment pattern in British Columbia schools. It gives the breakdown of public school enrolment by grade levels for the 1983-84 school year. Thousands more British Columbians participate in adult education programs as full-time or part-time students at universities, colleges and technical and vocational schools, and in public school night classes.

PUBLIC SCHOOL ENROLMENT

Actual Enrolment, September 1983					
Type of School	Number of Schools	Male	Female	Total	Percent of Total
Senior Secondary	20	9,518	9,363	18,881	3.8
Secondary	166	58,588	55,605	114,193	23.0
Junior Secondary	95	26,435	24,666	51,101	10.3
Elementary-Senior Secondary	32	5,933	5,412	11,345	2.3
Elementary-Junior Secondary	69	8,553	8,087	16,640	3.3
Elementary	1,200	146,900	137,783	284,683	57.3
TOTALS (Grades 1-12)	1,582	255,927	240,916	496,843	100.0

Source: "Principal's Report of Enrolment, Sept. 30, 1983", British Columbia Ministry of Education, Statistical Services.

The British Columbia public school system embraces all grades from kindergarten to grade 12, with free tuition. Kindergarten is available for children five years old in most of the 75 school districts but is not compulsory. Public school attendance or a satisfactory alternative is compulsory for children between seven and fifteen years of age.

The school year normally begins early in September and ends late in June. The length of the term normally consists of between 190 and 200 days, with breaks at Christmas, midway between Christmas and the end of June, and during the months of July and August.

There are three universities in British Columbia. They are the University of British Columbia, University of Victoria, and Simon Fraser University. These universities offer a wide scope of courses in undergraduate, graduate and professional programs. The following table gives the enrolment and the classification of students as of December 1, 1983:

DEGREE ENROLMENT IN BRITISH COLUMBIA UNIVERSITIES
December 1, 1983

Student Classification	University			Total
	British Columbia	Victoria	Simon Fraser[1]	
Full-Time				
Undergraduate	18,992	6,571	6,390	31,953
Graduate	2,811	629	1,096	4,536
Total Full-Time	21,803	7,200	7,486	36,489
Part-Time				
Undergraduate	5,300	3,659	4,793	13,752
Graduate	1,214	490	400	2,104
Total Part-Time	6,514	4,149	5,193	15,856
Total	28,317	11,349	12,679	52,345

Source: Universities Council of B.C.
[1]Data for Simon Fraser are as at October 1, 1983.

In addition to the three universities, British Columbia has an extensive system of non-university post-secondary education providing academic, technical, vocational, career and artistic programs offered at institutions separate from public schools. These services are offered by 15 community colleges located throughout the province which provide a full array of programs such as university transfer, career/technical, college preparatory and vocational; and special purpose institutions which offer comprehensive programming in specific fields such as the British Columbia Institute of Technology in Burnaby, the Pacific Vocational Institute in Burnaby, the Justice Institute in Vancouver, the Pacific Marine Training Institute in North Vancouver, and the Emily Carr College of Art and Design in Vancouver. The Open Learning Institute based in Richmond provides long-distance education for students unable to attend other institutions, by offering 150 correspondence courses, and the Jericho Hill School for the Deaf in Vancouver provides both day and residential education for the hearing-impaired.

The following tables demonstrate the scope and size of the vocational and community college system in British Columbia:

FULL-TIME VOCATIONAL ENROLMENT IN COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND PROVINCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Institution	October 31, 1982
Camosun College	1,316
Capilano College	505
Cariboo College	941
David Thompson College	60
Douglas College	390
East Kootenay Community College	296
Fraser Valley College	534
Kwantlen College	619
Malaspina College	1,016
College of New Caledonia	842
North Island College	226
Northern Lights College	420
Northwest Community College	544
Okanagan College	736
Selkirk College	401
Vancouver Community College	2,665
B.C.I.T.	30
Justice Institute	194
Pacific Marine Training Institute	139
Pacific Vocational Institute	2,696
Total	14,570

Source: "B.C. Post-Secondary Enrolment Statistics, 1982/83", B.C. Ministry of Education, Management Services

ENROLMENT[1] IN COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND BRITISH COLUMBIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, 1982-1983

Community College	Full-Time				Part-Time				Grand Total
	University Transfer	Career/ Technical	College Preparatory	Sub-total	University Transfer	Career/ Technical	College Preparatory	Sub-total	
B.C.I.T.	—	3,960	—	3,960	—	9,928	—	7,928	13,888
Camosun	480	929	282	1,691	828	249	306	1,383	3,074
Capilano	833	697	—	1,530	1,181	784	—	1,965	3,495
Cariboo	487	520	10	1,017	511	407	56	974	1,991
David Thompson	96	86	—	182	103	151	—	254	436
Douglas	782	400	—	1,182	1,285	413	—	1,698	2,880
East Kootenay	126	120	12	258	283	416	79	778	1,036
Emily Carr Art College	—	509	—	509	—	—	—	—	509
Fraser Valley	405	284	38	727	451	370	53	874	1,601
Kwantlen	883	444	—	1,327	1,393	325	—	1,718	3,045
Malaspina	617	491	19	1,127	986	149	47	1,182	2,309
New Caledonia	552	500	—	1,052	301	569	—	870	1,922
North Island	174	47	37	258	1,205	372	638	2,215	2,473
Northern Lights	55	26	34	115	266	226	21	513	628
Northwest	71	76	1	148	280	74	17	371	519
Okanagan	935	677	46	1,658	729	432	66	1,227	2,885
Open Learning Institute	—	—	—	—	1,119	1,553	1,241	3,913	3,913
Selkirk	263	338	36	637	136	64	54	254	891
Vancouver[2]	1,963	1,239	337	3,539	2,108	498	1,013	3,619	7,158
Total	8,722	11,343	852	20,917	13,165	16,980	3,591	33,736	54,653

Source: College Statistical Reports, Forms TV27 and TV27A.

[1] Vocational and continuing education enrolments are excluded from this table. General Studies are included with University Transfer and Career/Technical enrolments.

[2] Includes Langara and King Edward.

The Constitution invests the control of education in the provincial governments; however, the provinces generally share responsibilities with local school boards.

The 75 elected boards of school trustees in British Columbia each administer their own district. The boards are subject only to the terms of the Public Schools Act and applicable Regulations as administered and enforced by the Minister of Education. Boards are responsible, for example, for the appointment of teachers and other staff, salary negotiations, the drawing of attendance boundaries, and the actual construction of schools. Boards also have the power to introduce courses of local interest into their school curricula to supplement the Ministry of Education's core curriculum.

SOCIAL SERVICES[1]

The provincial and federal governments administer numerous social services for the residents of British Columbia.

Hospital Programs

All British Columbia residents are eligible for treatment and diagnostic services in the hospital system. Benefits include standard ward accommodation, meals, nursing services, drugs, and other available hospital services. The direct charge to the patient is $8.50 a day.

Hospitals also provide emergency health services. In addition to skilled nurses, physicians are on duty around the clock to treat victims of accidents and other emergencies. Many hospitals have day-care surgery services. The patient is admitted, treated, and discharged on the same day provided the surgery is not complicated. The direct charge is $10.00 for each such admission.

Day care clinics for persons with diabetes, psychiatric illness, and other illnesses are becoming widely available in hospital settings. Physicians direct patients to these services.

Medical Services Plan

The Medical Services Plan of British Columbia provides prepaid, comprehensive medical care to residents of the province. The program pays the bills submitted by doctors, chiropractors, naturopaths, optometrists, and some other health workers for health services administered to their patients.

These services are available regardless of the individual's age, health, or financial circumstances, provided the person is enrolled in the Medical Services Plan and premiums have been paid. Monthly premiums are $16.00 for individuals, $30.00 for 2 person families, and $34.00 for families of 3 or more persons.

It is a voluntary plan with the responsibility of every resident of the province to enrol in the plan and maintain coverage for him/herself and dependents either individually, through arrangements with an employer, or through a person acting on their behalf. Financial assistance regarding payment of premiums may be available from the plan.

Emergency Health Services

The Ministry of Health operates a system of ground, air, and sea ambulances which are available to every resident (aircraft missions must be authorized by certain authorities before they will be dispatched). Ambulance numbers are located in the front of every telephone directory. The direct charges to patients are $25.00 for the first 40 kilometres, plus 26 cents per kilometre thereafter to a maximum of $162.00.

Long-Term Care Programs

The Long-Term Care Program provides care and support to individuals who have a chronic disease or disability. Many of these individuals are admitted to facilities. A large number are also supported in their homes. Homemakers, visiting nurses, and volunteers provide support in the home. Details of the program and admission procedures are available from Long-Term Care offices throughout the province. These offices are listed under Health Unit or Health District in telephone directories. The direct charge to the patient for facility care is $12.75 a day.

Mental Health Services

A network of community mental health clinics and boarding homes provides counselling and therapy to individuals with emotional distress or behavioral difficulty. The Health Minisry operates Riverview Hospital for individuals who need more intensive care. Mental health clinics are listed under Health Units or Districts in telephone directories.

Preventive Services

The Ministry of Health administers a program for the prevention of disease and disability. It is available to every resident, but particular attention is given to mothers and newborn infants, children, and groups who have special problems such as those involving speech and hearing. Preventive services

[1]All rates in this section are applicable to 1984.

include, for example, immunizations, pre-natal classes, and school health visits.

Workers' Compensation

Compensation for time-loss to those who suffer injury while at work is paid under the Workers' Compensation Act. Seriously injured individuals may be eligible for rehabilitation treatment and permanent disability pensions. Provision is also made for the dependents of a worker where death results from an employment injury. The premium for workers' compensation is paid by employers.

Home-owner Grant

The Home-owner Grant is paid by the British Columbia government to reduce tax levies on resident home-owners. The maximum home-owner's grant is $380. Home-owners aged 65 or over, the physically disabled and the mentally retarded are eligible for an additional grant of $250.

Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters

The Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters (SAFER) program provides direct cash assistance to Old Age Security recipients renting in British Columbia so that they do not have to spend an unreasonable portion of their income on rent. Eligibility is based on income, rent and residency requirements. The program operates under statutory authority of the Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters Act.

SAFER benefits equal 75 percent of the amount by which rent exceeds 30 percent of the applicant's total income. Currently, the maximum monthly rent that could be claimed for SAFER benefits is $330 for a single person and $365 for a couple. The maximum monthly benefit is $125 for a single person and $80 for a married couple.

To be eligible for SAFER benefits, applicants must be 65 years of age or older, renting a principal residence and paying more than 30 percent of their income towards rent. They must also be receiving Old Age Security and either the applicant or the spouse must have resided in British Columbia for two years immediately prior to application or for five continuous years at anytime in the past. Persons already receiving a provincial rental subsidy (British Columbia Housing Management Commission or Long Term Care program) are not eligible for SAFER.

Benefits begin July 1 of each year and continue to June 30 of the following year. Eligibility for SAFER must be re-established in May or June of each year by submitting a reapplication updating the applicant's income and address. Income that is considered includes Old Age Security, Guaranteed Income Supplement, GAIN, Basic Income Assistance, War Veteran's benefits and Worker's Compensation plus all other sources of income (interest, dividends, private sources, Canada Pension Plan) from the previous year.

Applicants for SAFER apply to "SAFER", Ministry of Human Resources, Parliament Buildings, Victoria, British Columbia, V8V 1X4.

Home Purchase Assistance

Home Purchase Assistance is available to a person who meets one of the three following requirements:

1) has ordinarily resided in British Columbia for a continuous period of two years immediately prior to purchase of the residence;

2) was born in British Columbia and is a Canadian citizen at the time of application;

3) has ordinarily resided in British Columbia for a continuous period of at least five years at any time, and is a Canadian citizen at the time of application.

Further requirements include:

1) the applicant has not received previous home purchase assistance;

2) the purchase price of the home is less than $85,000;

3) the home is the applicant's normal place of residence.

Assistance is in the Form of a second mortgage of up to $10,000. The interest rate on the second mortgage is the National Housing Act (N.H.A.) rate in effect the day the application is received.

Income Assistance

Income Assistance may be granted by the provincial government to any eligible individual or family without the means or resources to meet their basic needs under the provisions of the Guaranteed Available Income for Need Act.

Special programmes and allowances are extended to the physicall or mentally disabled, including full health care, rehabilitation, training and employment services. Additional allowances are extended to the needy at age 60 and over.

Health care services for those in need include prescribed drugs, dental and optical care, and prosthetic appliances. All residents are eligible for partial assistance in paying for prescribed drugs. All residents 65 years and over receive them free of charge.

All public social services are administered by the provincial government from convenient local offices. There is a full range of services to individuals and their families, besides those relating to income maintenance, health care, and rehabilitation. These ensure continued care and protection of children in the event their natural parents are unwilling or unable to care for them.

There is a system of community grants to encourage local organizations to provide a wide range of socially useful, desirable, and innovative services. Services eligible for grants include: homemakers, handicapped persons achievement centres and transportation services, senior citizen centres, day care for children and adults, infant development, youth programmes, counselling, meals-on-wheels, crisis centres, emergency shelters, and Indian centres.

Unemployment Insurance

Administration of unemployment insurance benefits is provided through a nation-wide system of Canadian Employment and Immigration Commission offices. Contributions to the Unemployment Insurance Fund are shared by employees and employers. In 1984 employees paid 2.30% of their weekly wage, up to a maximum of $9.78 per week. Employers paid 1.4 times the employee's premium. Employers are eligible for a premium reduction if they have a wage loss indemnity plan registered with the Commission. The Federal Government will pay the cost of benefits if the national unemployment rate exceeds a specified level which is calculated annually; otherwise benefits are paid out of the employer/employee account. The maximum weekly benefit in 1984 was $255.

Family Allowance

A monthly allowance of $29.95 (January 1984) per child is paid by the Federal Government from birth to eighteenth birthday. The allowances may be increased in January of each year, to reflect the increase in the cost of living. Family allowances are payable on behalf of all children under 18 who are residents of Canada and who are maintained by their parents, provided at least one parent is a Canadian citizen; or a person who is a landed immigrant in accordance with the Immigration Act; or a person admitted to Canada as a non-immigrant for a period of not less than one year and whose income during that period has been subject to Canadian income tax.

Old Age Security

All persons meeting age and residence requirements are eligible, upon application, for an old-age pension of $266.28 per month (April 1984). The pension is payable at age 65 and is adjusted every three months. A person must have resided in Canada for the preceding 10 years to meet the residency requirement. Other methods of qualification are available for those having resided outside the country for certain intervals of time. A guaranteed income supplement of $267.33 and a provincial grant of $38.88 provides single pensioners with a maximum income of $542.10 per month (April 1984). The Old Age Security Act provides a Spouse's Allowance to old age pensioners whose husbands or wives are between 60 and 65, provided their combined annual income is less than $14,207.99 (April 1984).

Canada Pension Plan

This plan became operational on January 1, 1966 and covers, on a compulsory basis, most types of employment. Contributions are required by employees at the rate of 1.8 percent of their earnings. Employers contribute an equal amount. Self-employed individuals contribute at a rate of 3.6 percent.

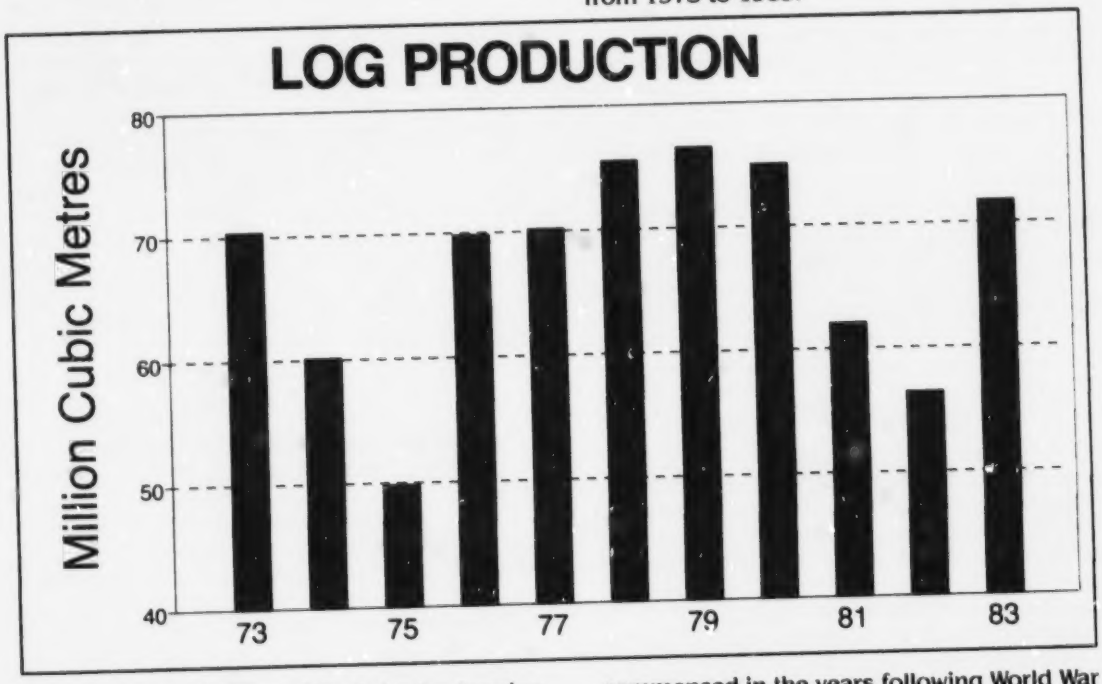
In 1984, the maximum contributions payable per year were $338.40 by both employers and employees and $776.80 by those self-employed. Persons can receive a retirement pension of up to a maximum of $387.50 per month in 1984, at age 65. The plan provides disability pensions, survivors' benefits, death benefits, and orphans' benefits.

The Economy

- The value of shipments from forest-based industries totalled $7.6 billion in 1983.
- British Columbia accounted for 64 percent of softwood lumber, 29 percent of the pulp, 16 percent of the paper, and 85 percent of the softwood plywood manufactured in Canada in 1983.

The Forest Resource

The extensive forest resources of British Columbia have played a dominant role in the economic growth of the province. A high proportion of the forests consist of softwood species (coniferous) which are in demand throughout the world in the form of lumber, newsprint, pulp and paper products, and shingles and shakes. The following graph details log production in British Columbia from 1973 to 1983:

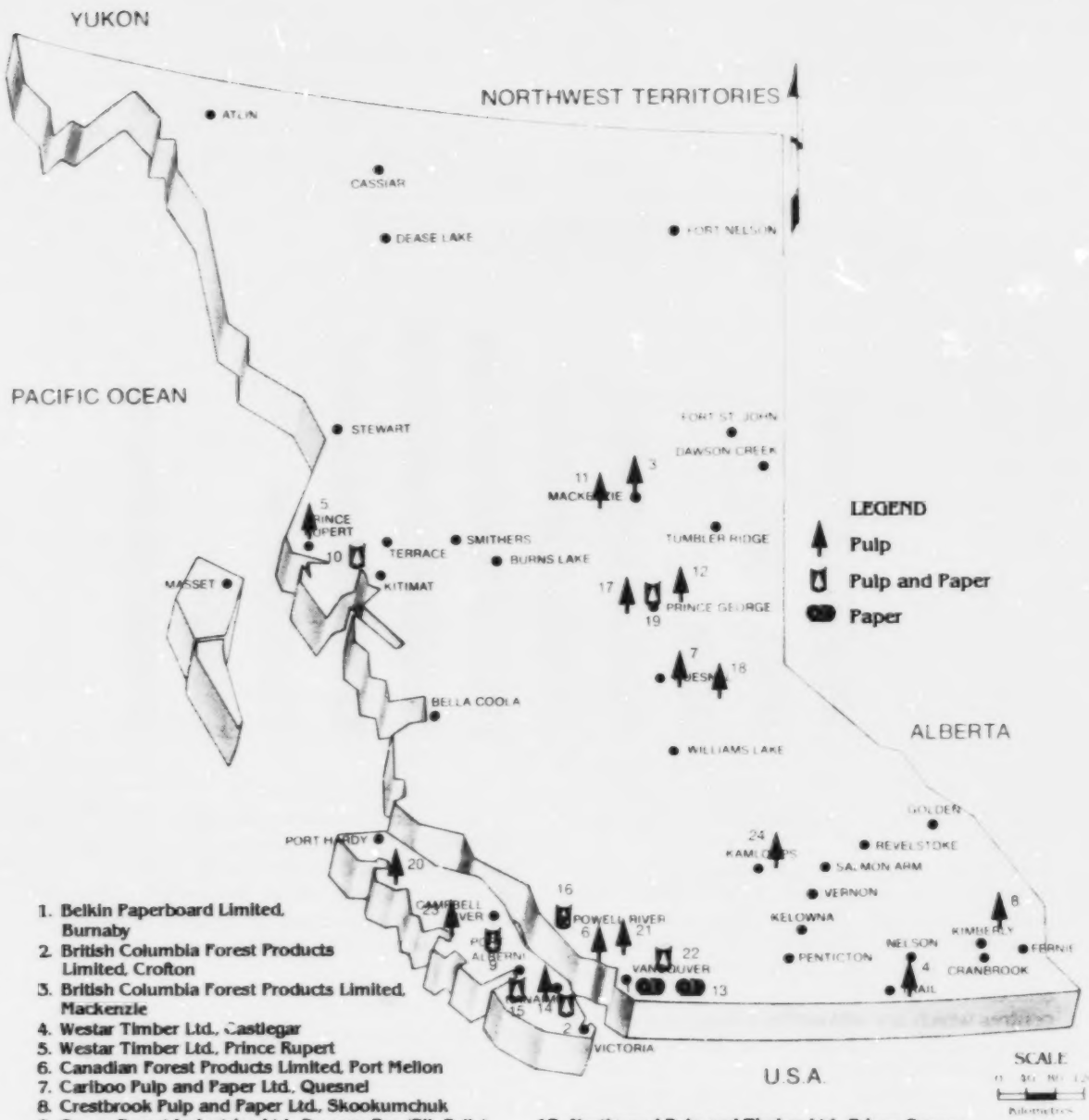


In the early days of the industry, logging camps were established along the coast to harvest the timber which was easily accessible by water. Mills were built in protected harbours where log storage and transportation could be facilitated, or where water power could be easily harnessed. Powell River, Port Alberni, and Chemainus are examples of such mill centres which are still active today. In the interior, mills were built to provide ties for the railways and then to provide lumber for the settlement of the prairie provinces. The East Kootenay region played a major part in the latter role.

Extensive development of the forest industry in the Interior of British Columbia commenced in the years following World War II as demand for forest products increased, as rail, highway and electric power systems extended into new areas, and as technological advances improved the economics of harvesting and processing smaller-sized Interior timber.

The Ministry of Forests estimates that the provincial forest land covers 521,029 square kilometres or 55 percent of British Columbia's total area of 948,596 square kilometres. This forest land supports 8.241 million cubic metres of mature timber, of which 97.5 percent is highly marketable softwood. British Columbia has about one-half of Canada's softwood inventory.

PULP AND PAPER MILLS



1. Belkin Paperboard Limited, Burnaby
2. British Columbia Forest Products Limited, Crofton
3. British Columbia Forest Products Limited, Mackenzie
4. Westar Timber Ltd., Castlegar
5. Westar Timber Ltd., Prince Rupert
6. Canadian Forest Products Limited, Port Mellon
7. Cariboo Pulp and Paper Ltd., Quesnel
8. Crestbrook Pulp and Paper Ltd., Skookumchuk
9. Crown Forest Industries Ltd., Duncan Bay (Elk Falls)
10. Eurocan Pulp and Paper Co. Ltd., Kitimat
11. Finlay Forest Industries Ltd., Mackenzie
12. Intercontinental Pulp Ltd., Prince George
13. Island Paper Mills Ltd., Annacis Island
14. MacMillam Bloedel Limited, Harmac
15. MacMillan Bloedel Limited, Port Alberni
16. MacMillan Bloedel Limited, Powell River
17. Northwood Pulp and Timber Ltd., Prince George
18. Quesnel River Pulp Co. Ltd., Quesnel
19. Prince George Pulp and Paper Limited, Prince George
20. Western Pulp Ltd., Port Alice
21. Western Pulp Ltd., Squamish (Woodfibre)
22. Scott Paper Ltd., New Westminster
23. Tahsis Company Limited, Gold River
24. Weyerhaeuser Canada Ltd., Kamloops

Adminstration and Management

Currently, 94 percent of the forest land in British Columbia is owned or administered by the provincial government. Retention of public ownership of forest land began with the Land Ordinance of 1865. This allowed the government to sell timber while retaining ownership of the land. Private owners hold authority over 5 percent of the forest land, the largest tract being the E & N Railroad Belt (approximately 1,600 square kilometres) on southeastern Vancouver Island. The federal government and special users control the remaining 1 percent.

Forest management in British Columbia, under direction of the provincial Ministry of Forests, is guided by the principle of maximum sustained yield. This principle dictates that timber depletion shall not exceed the forests' ability to reproduced sound wood. Thirty-three Timber Supply Areas (TSA's) replaced Public Sustained Yield Units (PSYU's) in 1979 as the primary forest management unit.

New legislation dealing with the British Columbia forest sector was introduced by the provincial government in 1979. The Forest Act, Ministry of Forests Act, and Range Act were proclaimed effective January 1, 1979 replacing legislation dating back to 1912. Highlights of the Acts include: revisions to logging tax legislation, incentives to licencees who practice good forest management and penalties for those who do not, provisions for intensive forest management practices, major changes in forest tenure forms (as recommended by the 1976 Pearse Royal Commission on Timber Rights and Forest Policy), government commitment to examine forest and range resources every ten years and forest management practices every five years, and provisions for replacement of existing short-term range permits by licences of up to ten years for ranchers. Recently, a partnership proposal to allow tree farm licence holders to share more forest management responsibilities has been under study.

The Federal-Provincial Intensive Forest Management Subsidiary Agreement, signed in May 1979, provided a five-year $50 million program with costs being shared equally between the two governments, to undertake initiatives for ensuring the long-term economic viability of the forest sector. The agreement expired in May 1984, but a successor agreement is expected. The purpose of the program is to enhance the forest resource base through intensive forest management in order to expand employment, to increase wood yield, and to sustain and increase the annual rate of harvest.

Forest-Based Industries

Forest-based industries constitute an important segment of the provincial economy and employ about 9 percent of the province's workers. The total cut from British Columbia's forests during 1983 was 71.4 million cubic metres with the following species distribution: Spruce, 24.9 percent; Lodgepole Pine, 21.7 percent; Hemlock, 16.9 percent; Balsam, 12.7 percent; Cedar, 10.6 percent; Douglas Fir, 10.4 percent; and other species, 2.8 percent.

Of all manufacturing industries in the province, the Wood Industries (including saw and planing mills and plywood plants) rank first in terms of value of production, followed by Paper and Allied Industries. In 1983, British Columbia produced 64 percent of all softwood lumber manufactured in Canada, 85 percent of the softwood plywood, 29 percent of the pulp, and 16 percent of the paper. The total value of shipments of British Columbia's forest-based industries reached an estimated $7.6 billion in 1983. The following table details the production of major forest products in British Columbia from 1978 to 1983.

PRODUCTION OF MAJOR FOREST PRODUCTS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Product	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983
Timber (logs) (000 cubic metres)	75,173	76,194	74,654	61,818	56,230	71,443
Lumber (000 cubic metres)	29,570	30,357	28,207	24,547	23,406	30,773
Plywood (000 cubic metres)	2,221	2,056	1,916	1,702	1,430	1,763
Pulp[1] (000 tonnes)	5,426	5,523	5,783	4,995	4,938	5,572
Paper/Paperboard (000 tonnes)	2,137	2,154	2,147	1,926	1,858	2,158
Shakes/shingles (000 squares)	3,492	3,400	3,266	3,105	2,920	3,759

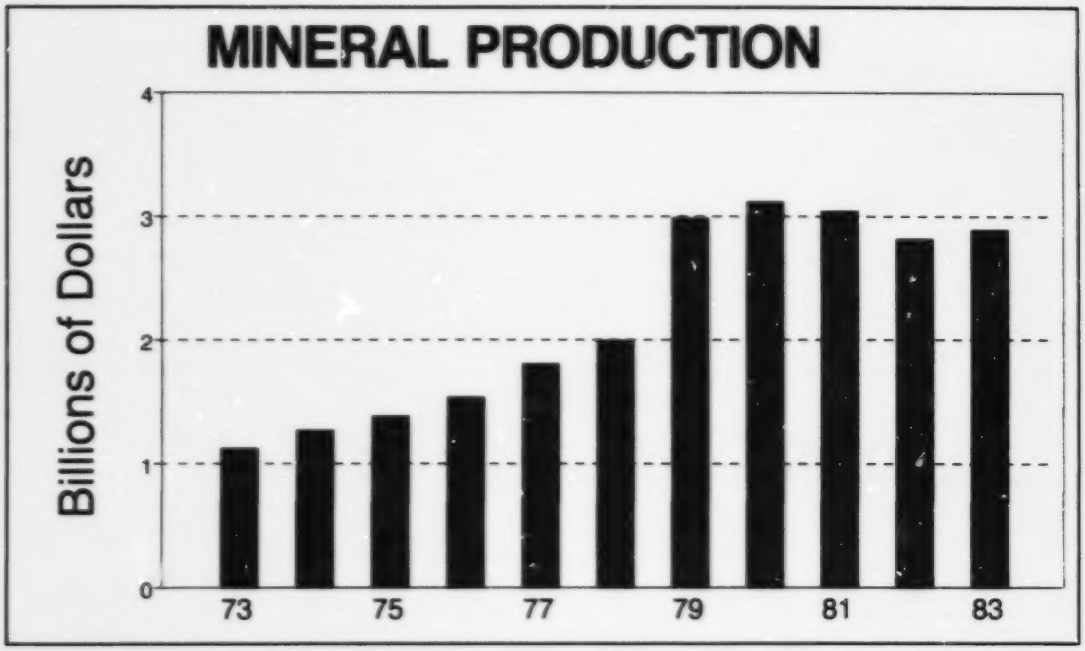
Sources: Ministry of Forest, Statistics Canada, and Canadian Pulp and Paper Association
[1] 1978 to 1982 figures from Statistics Canada, 1983 figures from Canadian Pulp and Paper Association

British Columbia exported $5.5 billion worth of forest products during 1983. The United States absorbed 57.5 percent; the European Economic Community, 16.6 percent; Japan, 14.1 percent; and other countries, 11.8 percent. The most important forest products exports were, in order of value: lumber, $2.63 billion; wood pulp, $1.43 billion; and newsprint paper, $578 million.

MINERAL INDUSTRY

- Total value of mineral production including petroleum and natural gas, was an estimated $2,860 million in 1983, with the value of coal production $561 million, copper production $549 million, and natural gas production $449 million.

A considerable part of British Columbia lies within the Canadian Cordillera, a region acknowledged to contain a wide variety of minerals. Despite recent setbacks the mineral industry over the past two decades has expanded impressively. This is largely a result of new technological advances in exploration and mining, better transportation, and the development of new foreign markets.



The value of mineral produced has exceeded $32.5 billion since the commencement of mining in British Columbia. Significantly, over 69 percent of this amount has been produced within the last decade. Mineral production in 1983 was valued at $2,859.6 million.

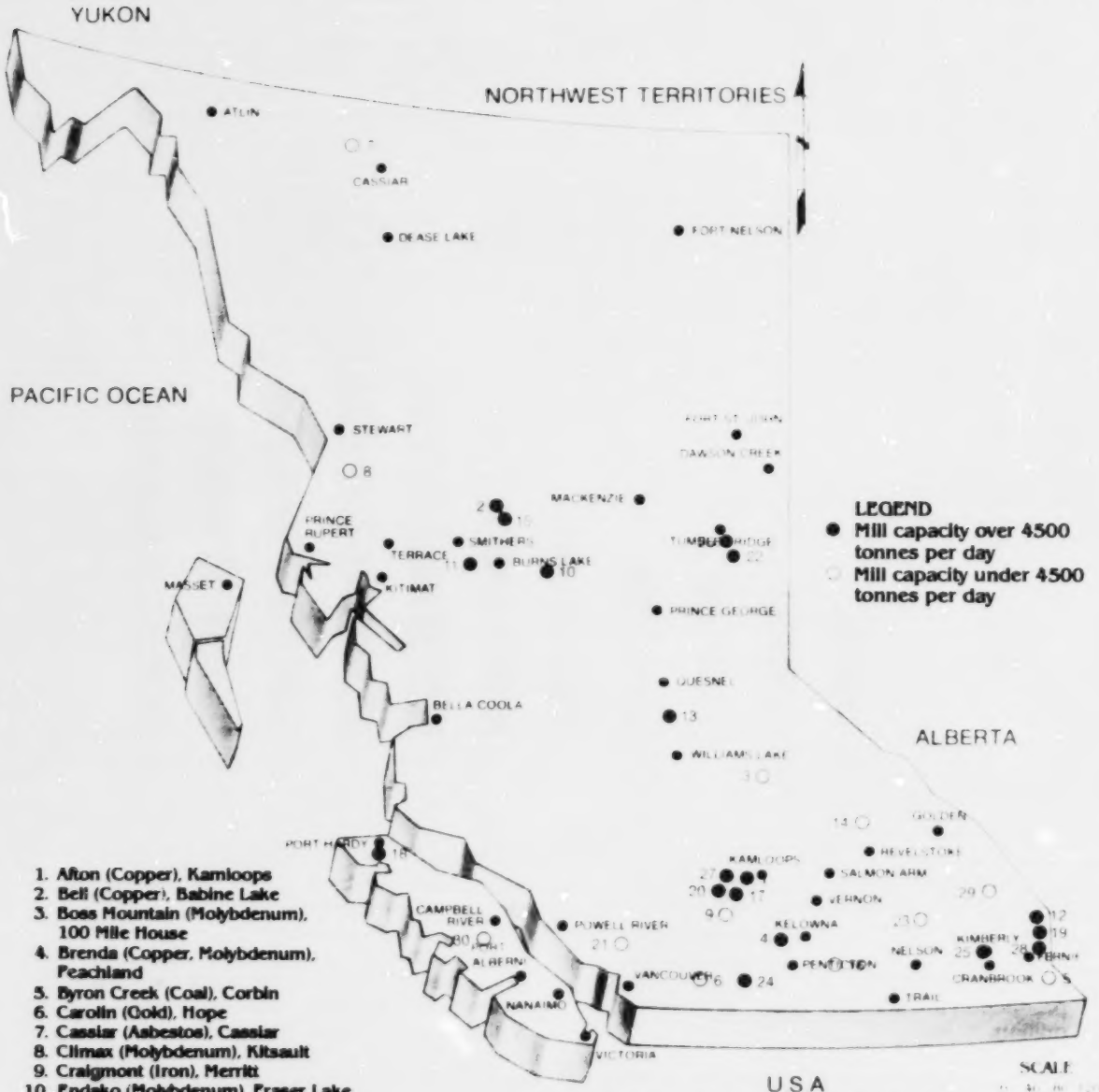
The Sullivan mine at Kimberly for many decades overshadowed other developments in the province and still remains one of the world's most important sources of lead and zinc. Concentrates are processed at Trail, the site of one of the largest lead-zinc smelters in the world.

Many outstanding new copper, molybdenum, and other properties have been developed in the province in the past two decades. Notable among these are: (note — some may be closed temporarily at the time of writing) Afton, Brenda, Endako, Granisle, Valley Copper, Island Copper, Westmin, Lornex, Gibraltar, Noranda (Bell), Highmont, and Similkameen. Over the past two years there has been a renewed interest in gold and silver, and a substantial number of smaller precious metal properties are now in production or under development. The following table details the value of mineral production in British Columbia from 1980 to 1983:

MINERAL INDUSTRY

Principal Mines, 1984*

***(including temporarily closed mines)**



1. Afton (Copper), Kamloops
2. Bell (Copper), Babine Lake
3. Boss Mountain (Molybdenum), 100 Mile House
4. Brenda (Copper, Molybdenum), Peachland
5. Byron Creek (Coal), Corbin
6. Carolin (Gold), Hope
7. Cassiar (Asbestos), Cassiar
8. Climax (Molybdenum), Kitsault
9. Craigmont (Iron), Merritt
10. Endako (Molybdenum), Fraser Lake
11. Equity (Gold, Silver, Copper), Houston
12. Fording (Coal), Elkford
13. Gibraltar (Copper), McLeese Lake
14. Goldstream (Copper, Zinc), Revelstoke
15. Granisle (Copper), Babine Lake
16. Highland Bell (Silver, Lead, Zinc), Beaverdell
17. Highmont (Copper, Molybdenum), Highland Valley
18. Island Copper (Copper, Molybdenum), Port Hardy
19. Line Creek (Coal), Sparwood
20. Lornex (Copper, Molybdenum), Highland Valley
21. Northair (Gold, Lead, Zinc, Silver), Alta Lake
22. Quintette (Coal), Tumbler Ridge
23. Silmonac (Silver, Lead, Zinc), New Denver
24. Similkameen (Copper), Princeton
25. Sullivan (Silver, Lead, Zinc), Kimberley
26. Teck (Coal), Tumbler Ridge
27. Valley Copper (Copper), Highland Valley
28. Westar Mining (Coal), Sparwood
29. Western Gypsum (Gypsum), Windermere
30. Westmin (Myra/Lynx) (Silver, Lead, Zinc, Copper), Buttle Lake

VALUE OF MINERAL PRODUCTION IN BRITISH COLUMBIA
(Millions of dollars)

	1980	1981	1982	1983
Metals				
Copper	670.6	611.3	495.0	548.7
Gold — placer and lode	170.1	136.0	118.3	140.9
Zinc	49.4	67.0	63.6	89.3
Lead	66.1	61.5	43.0	46.9
Molybdenum	288.9	198.2	155.0	91.9
Silver	156.5	152.4	158.3	186.9
Others	27.4	20.3	24.4	16.8
Total Metals	1,429.0	1,246.7	1,057.5	1,121.3
Industrial Minerals				
Asbestos	81.7	76.8	57.0	79.7
Sulphur	21.7	33.3	29.1	21.7
Others	12.5	12.4	9.5	10.7
Total Industrial Minerals	115.9	122.5	95.6	112.2
Structural Materials				
Sand and gravel	98.7	87.6	65.6	72.9
Cement	90.1	82.4	69.3	66.5
Others	53.5	30.8	29.2	29.1
Total Structural Materials	242.3	200.8	164.2	168.6
Coal				
Coal sold or used	461.5	554.3	566.9	560.7
Petroleum and Natural Gas				
Crude oil	189.6	236.2	333.4	402.3
Natural gas to pipe-line	612.5	616.8	542.7	448.6
Others	26.2	31.6	36.3	45.9
Total Petroleum & Natural Gas	828.3	884.5	912.9	896.8
Grand Total	3,077.0	3,008.7	2,797.1	2,859.6

Source: Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources.

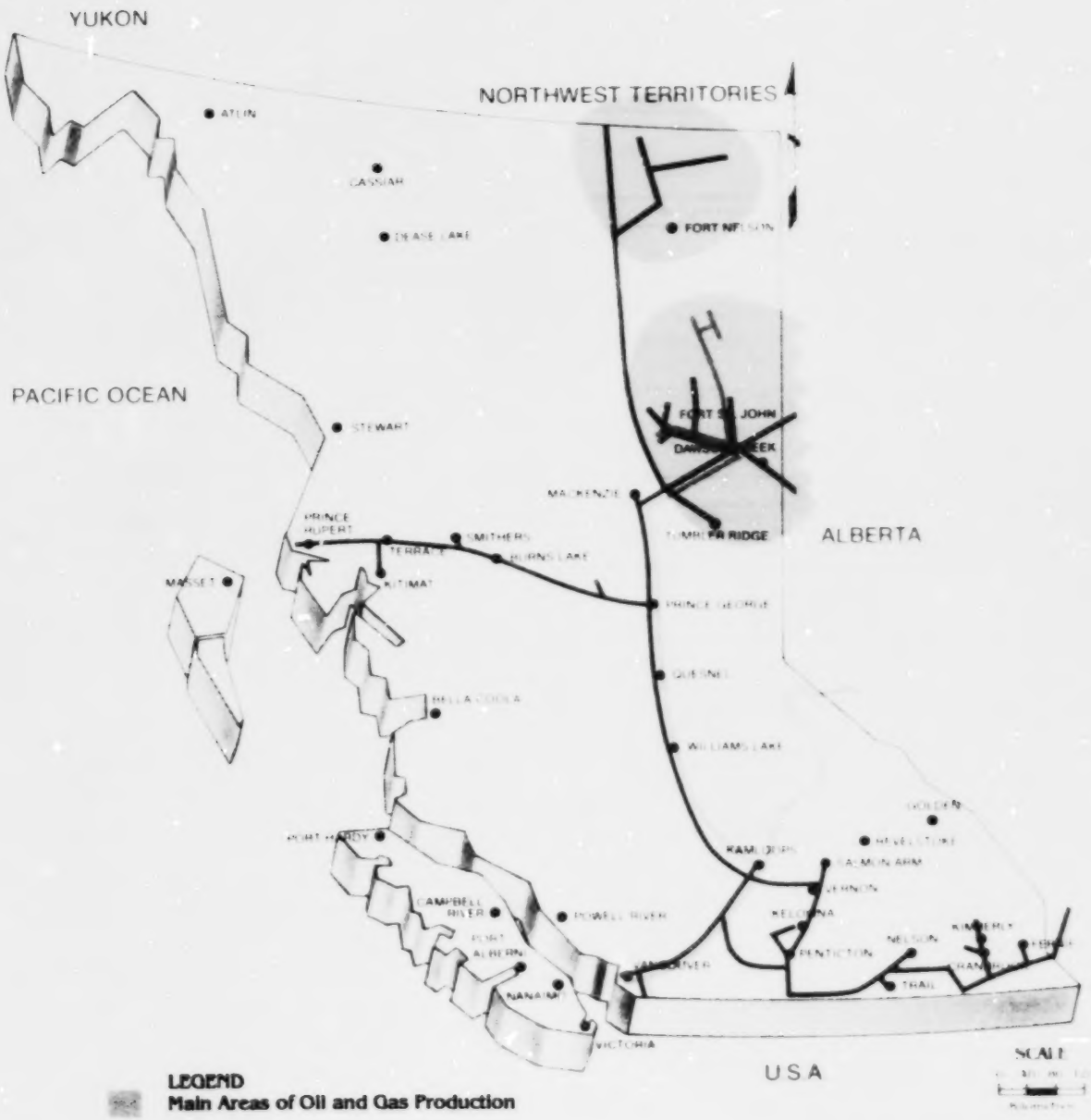
Copper, with a value of $548.7 million, was the most important metal by value in 1983, followed by silver at $186.9 million, and gold at $140.9 million. Molybdenum had been the second most important metal until a dramatic fall in price in 1982 forced a number of producers to close, at least temporarily. The four major metals — copper, silver, gold and molybdenum — represented 34 percent of the total value of mineral production in the province during 1983.

Exploration continues throughout the province, with particular emphasis in the Northwest (Stewart and Toodoggone areas), the Cariboo, southern Chilcotin, Adams Lake, Similkameen, and the Kootenays. Most of the recent exploration has been directed toward discovery and delineation of high-grade polymetallic deposits, including silver, gold and zinc. Mining development and exploration was stimulated by rising commodity prices and a favourable currency exchange rate until the recent world-wide economic downturn adversely affected the industry. However, the level of prospecting work has remained active, with emphasis on those minerals with good demand prospects.

Metallurgical coal is currently being mined and exported, primarily to Japan, by three major producers in the East Kootenay-Crowsnest coalfield: Westar Mining (Harmer Ridge, Balmer, Greenhills), Fording Coal Limited (Elk River), and Crows Nest Resources (Line Creek). Farther south, Byron Creek Collieries, which produced thermal coal under contract to Ontario Hydro as well as exporting to foreign markets, is preparing to increase output to 2 million tonnes per year when markets improve. The Line Creek and Greenhills mines, which commenced thermal coal exports in 1982, began shipping coking coal in 1983. Rio Algom Mines Limited (Sage Creek) and Elco Mining Limited (Elco) are at an advanced state of exploration but development is not expected to occur until markets strengthen.

Two major projects in the North East or

PIPELINES 1984



Peace River coalfields came into production on schedule late in 1983. These are the Teck Corporation (Bullmoose), and Denison Mines Limited (Quintette) properties. The area contains numerous other coal deposts that are candidates for production when demand for coal rises. An estimated $2.5 billion has been invested in the Northeast project by the private and public sectors to develop the mine sites and the necessary infrastructure, making this the largest industrial undertaking in the provinces's history.

In addition to the vast coal resources of the North East and South East, there is growing interest in the coalfields of the North West and Vancouver Island. The Quinsam Coal project near Campbell River has received approval to proceed and thermal markets are now being sought. In the North West, Crows Nest Resources has proposed a 1.5 million tonnes per year mine near Telkwa, and Gulf Resources is investigating the feasibility of establishing a major anthracite mine in the Mt. Klappen area. Both projects await regulatory approval and sales contracts.

Petroleum and Natural Gas

The northeastern part of British Columbia is an extension of the Great Plains of North America and is the only sedimentary area of the province that is currently producing oil and gas. As of December 31, 1983, established reserves of crude oil were 23,515 thousand cubic metres, with raw gas reserves placed at 292,338 million cubic metres and marketable reserves at 238,622 million cubic metres. Commercial production was not significant until the main gas and oil transmission-lines were completed in 1957 and 1961 respectively.

Westcoast Transmission Company started construction of its gas pipeline from the Peace River District to the Lower Mainland in November 1955. It was completed in October 1957, and was put into use immediately. The intitial gas-gathering systems were built at the same time and have since been extended markedly, until now over 12,000 kilometres of gathering and distribution line are in use in the province. Following discovery of prolific gas reserves in the Fort Nelson area, additional line was laid from Fort Nelson to join the original line at Chetwynd. Other pipelines serve the Cariboo, Okanagan, east and west Kootenays, and Prince Rupert area. Condensate, butane, and propane are extracted from a gas cleaning plant located at Taylor. Sulphur is produced at gas cleaning plants at Taylor, Fort Nelson and Chetwynd. The feasibility of extending natural gas service to Vancouver Island is currently under study.

Crude-oil pipelines in British Columbia are not as extensive as gas lines but are equally significant. There are two main gathering systems in the province. One gathers oil from the several fields situated north and east of Fort St. John; the other serves the Aitken Creek, Blueberry, and Inga fields northwest of Fort St. John. Both lines deliver crude oil to the terminal facilities at Taylor, southeast of Fort St. John. Although some oil is refined at plants in Taylor and Prince George, most is transported in Westcoast Petroleum Limited's pipeline to Kamloops and then on to Vancouver area refineries via the Trans-Mountain Pipeline from Alberta. There are approximately 2,100 kilometres of crude oil trunk and gathering lines in the province. A recent discovery of oil near Fort Nelson may require a substantial addition to the pipeline network if reserves prove to be sufficiently large to permit commercial development.

MAJOR PARKS

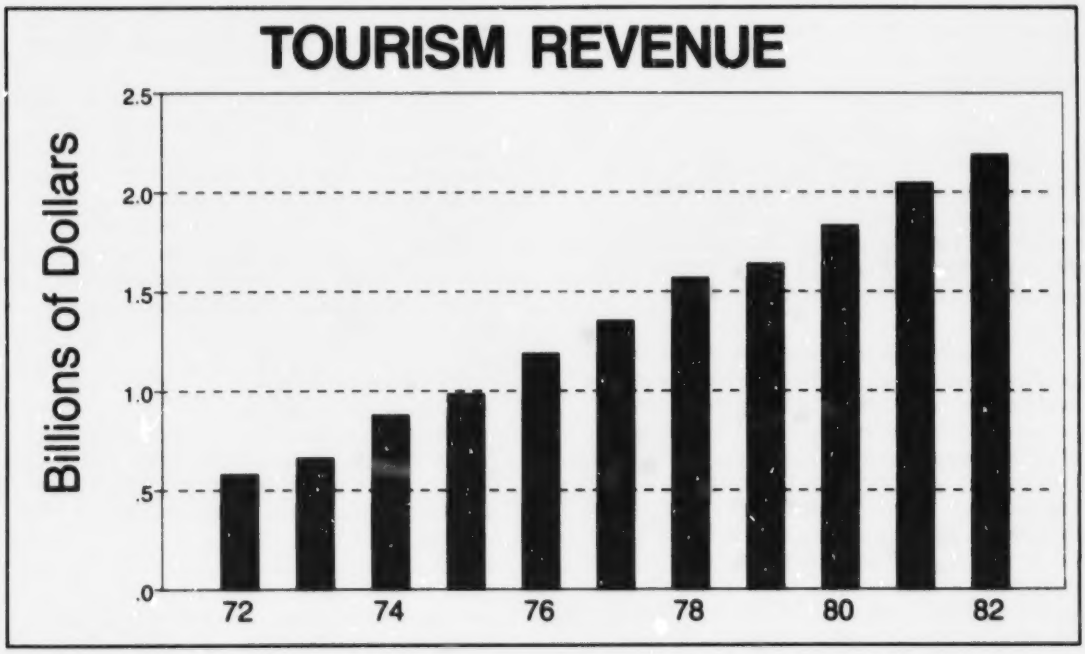
PROVINCIAL PARKS

1. Atlin
2. Bowron Lake
3. Cape Scott
4. Carp Lake
5. Cathedral
6. Desolation Sound Marine Park
7. Elk Lakes
8. Garibaldi
9. Golden Ears
10. Hamber
11. Kokanee Glacier
12. Kwadacha
13. Manning
14. Monashee
15. Mount Assiniboine
16. Mount Edziza
17. Mount Robson
18. Mount Seymour
19. Muncho Lake
20. Naikoon
21. Okanagan Mountain
22. St. Mary's Alpine
23. Silver Star
24. Spatsizi Plateau
25. Stone Mountain
26. Strathcona
27. Tatlatui
28. Top of the World Park
29. Tweedsmuir
30. Wells Gray

TOURISM AND RECREATION

- Tourism revenue in 1983 was approximately $2.2 billion.
- An estimated 11.8 million persons visited or toured British Columbia in 1983.
- The Province has over 5 million hectares of park land.

In 1983, tourism revenues in British Columbia were estimated to be $2,155 million. The growth in revenue from 1973 to 1983 is shown in the graph below:



An estimated 11.8 million persons visited or toured British Columbia in 1983. British Columbia residents accounted for 47.0 percent of all travellers in the province, other Canadians 25.5 percent, U.S. travellers 23.7 percent, and offshore residents 3.8 percent. Non-resident tourists spent $1.2 billion. Offshore residents touring in British Columbia have a larger economic impact in relation to their numbers with per trip expenditures being twice the average. The preceding table details the breakdown of revenue and number of trips by visitor origin.

REVENUE AND NUMBER OF TRIPS BY VISITOR ORIGIN, 1983

Visitor Origin	No. of Trips (000's)	Revenues ($ millions)
B.C. Residents	5,550	955
Other Canadians	3,010	610
U.S. Residents	2,795	415
Offshore Residents	445	175
Total	11,800	2,155

Source: Ministry of Tourism

Excellent transportation infrastructure has aided the expansion of tourism activity in all parts of the province. The highway and ferry system facilitates vehicular travel throughout British Columbia and gives visitors ample opportunity to savour the natural beauty of the landscape.

The British Columbia Ferry Corporation operates one of the largest ferry fleets in the world. Service is provided between: Tsawwassen and Swartz Bay, the Gulf Islands, and Prince Rupert via Port Hardy and Bella Bella; Horseshoe Bay and Departure Bay, Langdale and Bowen Island; Swartz Bay and Saltspring Island and the outer Gulf Islands; Crofton and Saltspring Island; Saltery Bay and Earls Cove; Mill Bay and Brentwood Bay; Langdale to Keats and Gambier Islands; and Prince Rupert and

Skidegate. The fleet carried 12.4 million passengers and 4.5 million vehicles during the year ended March 31, 1984.

Vancouver International Airport is the western Canadian hub for international air transportation. There is scheduled air service to most cities in the province. Charter services operate a wide variety of wheeled, float-equipped, and ski-equipped aircraft. Two rail services, B.C. Rail and Via Rail, offer passenger services to many British Columbia communities as well as out-of-province destinations.

Numerous first-class accommodations complement the highway network. In 1983 there were over 80,000 units of tourism accommodation in 2,143 government-registered establishments. Provincial parks provided approximately 9,000 campsites in support of outdoor recreation activity.

British Columbia is richly endowed with provincial and national parks which preserve and protect outstanding examples of the province's natural and human history. They also provide almost unlimited opportunity for outdoor recreation. As of December 31, 1983, the province managed 336 parks (4,250,528 hectares), 30 recreation areas (230,494 hectares), one wilderness conservancy (131,523 hectares), for a total of 4,612,545 hectares. There are also five national parks (Kootenay, Glacier, Yoho, Pacific Rim, and Mount Revelstoke) within British Columbia with a total area of 466,000 hectares and three national historic parks (Fort Langley, Fort Rodd Hill, Fort St. James).

During 1983 an estimated 15.2 million visits were made to provincial parks, of which about 2.1 million were by overnight campers. Provincial parks range from wilderness areas, where natural conditons are preserved as much as possible, to main highway camping and picnic sites. The needs of boat users in southern coastal waters are served by 28 marine parks.

British Columbia provides hunters and fishermen with extensive recreational opportunities. In the 1982-83 fiscal year 158,407 hunting licences and 396,314 fresh-water angling licences were issued in the province. Excellent year-round salt as well as fresh water fishing is available in British Columbia. Chinook and coho salmon are the chief salt water sports fish. Chinook salmon (called tyee when over 13.5 kg.) and coho are found in all coastal waters. The Kamloops or rainbow trout is the most important fresh water sports fish and can be found throughout the Interior. While an average Kamloops trout weighs about 0.7 kg, much larger fish are caught in major lakes including Quesnel, Shuswap, and Kootenay Lake. The steelhead, a sea-going Rainbow trout, is another important game fish in rivers and streams.

British Columbia provides hunters with a wide variety of quarry ranging from upland birds to big game. The most widely hunted upland game birds are grouse and pheasant while duck shooting is the most popular waterfowl sport. The most hunted of the larger game are moose and deer but other big game species hunted include elk, caribou, black and grizzly bear, bighorn and thinhorn sheep, and mountain goats.

The history of British Columbia is peopled by native Indians, fur traders and gold prospectors, colonial governors, and immigrants from far-away places. The more than 40 places officially designated as historic parks and sites in the province are a tribute to this history.

Prehistoric Indian petroglyph rock carvings, fur trading posts, the 1860 gold rush town of Barkerville, heritage buildings in various communities and historic trails from the 19th century and earlier are part of the province's historic resources being preserved or accurately restored to their period status. Vancouver's turn-of-the-century Gastown-Chinatown area is an historic showpiece. Restored brick buildings house fashionable boutiques and curio shops in Gastown; while in Chinatown, the second largest Chinese community in North America, a way of life exported from the Orient can be seen.

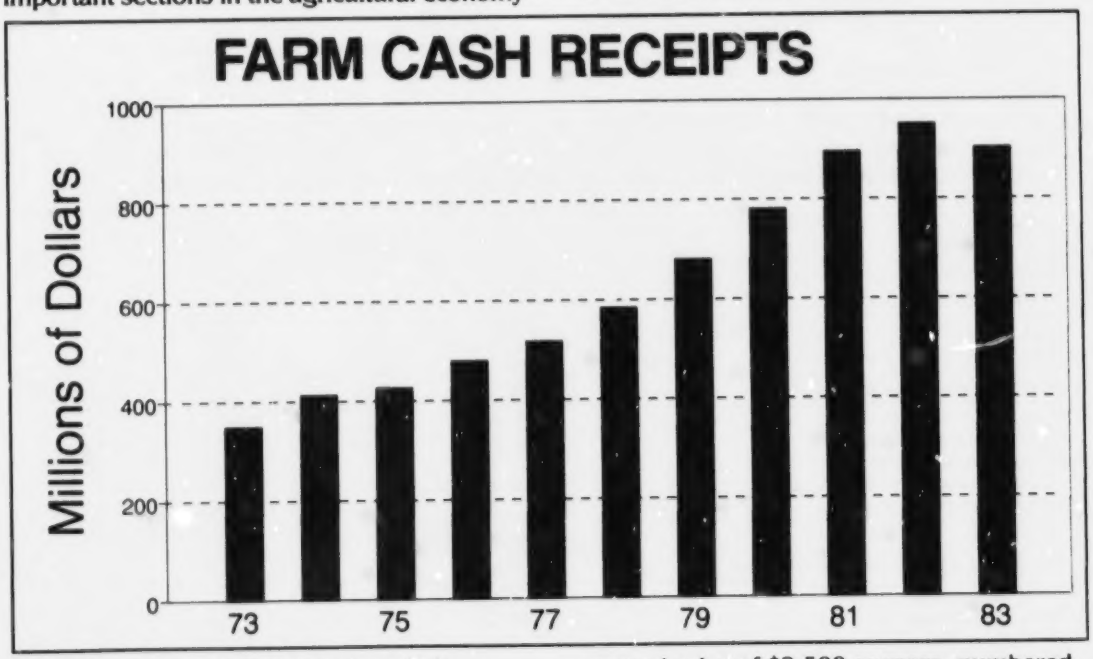
Almost every city and town in British Columbia has a museum that depicts the history, archaeology, and pioneer life of the area and the province. The Provincial Museum, Victoria, exhibits historical reconstructions, Indian ethnology, archaeology, and botanical and zoological displays. Other highlights include: the Centennial Museum, H.R. MacMillan Planetarium, Museum of Anthropology, and the Maritime Museum in

Vancouver; exhibits on mining and tours through once-working mines at Britannia and Rossland; the Kootenay Doukhobor Historical Museum, Castlegar; the British Columbia Forest Museum, near Duncan; and the O'Keefe Ranch Museum, Vernon.

AGRICULTURE

- Cash receipts from 1983 farming operations were an estimated $902 million.

Agriculture is the province's fourth largest resource industry, behind forestry, mining, and tourism. Farming operations cash receipts totalled $901.6 million in 1983 compared to $942.4 million in 1982. The most important sections in the agricultural economy of British Columbia are dairying and the production of livestock and related products. British Columbia's dairy herds are the most productive in Canada and British Columbia beef and dairy cattle are widely sought for breeding stock. The following graph displays the growth of farm cash receipts in British Columbia from 1973 to 1983:



Agriculture in British Columbia is distinguished by its diversity. Virtually all Canadian products can be found in the province. Some of the specialized activities carried out by British Columbia's farmers include: dairying, cattle-ranching, poultry-raising, and the growing of tree fruits, vegetables, berries, grapes, bulbs, and ornamental shrubs. Mixed livestock-crop farming complements this specialization and is found throughout the province.

Out of a total provincial land area of 893,766 square kilometres, 4.0 percent is arable or potentially arable and 16.5 percent has agricultural capability. The 1981 census of agriculture listed 20,012 farms (with sales of $250 or more) covering a total area of 2,180,288 hectares. Improved farmland accounts for 947,065 hectares and unimproved farmland, 1,233,341 hectares. "Commercial" farms, defined as those with annual sales of $2,500 or more, numbered 13,597. British Columbia recorded an 8.8 percent increase in the total number of census farms between 1971 and 1981. This reversed the trend evident during the 1960's when farm numbers were declining.

Large dairy herds are concentrated in the Lower Fraser Valley, south-eastern Vancouver Island, and North Okanagan-Shuswap areas. Lesser concentrations are found near Creston, Smithers, Vanderhoof, and Prince George. Cattle ranching is carried out primarily on the open or forested range lands of the Cariboo, Chilcotin, Princeton-Kamloops-Lytton, Okanagan, and Kootenay areas. The climate and soils of the southern Interior valleys, principally the Okanagan, admirably suit the production of tree fruits, grapes, and other heat-loving crops under irrigation. The cooler and wetter climate of the lower Fraser Valley favours berry crops and

vegetables. Most of the province's grain, oilseeds, and forage seeds grow in the Peace River country. Grains are also important in the Creston area

The raising of greenhouse crops, bulbs, mushrooms, poultry and egg production, and other specialties is centered near Greater Vancouver and Victoria. However, there has been a gradual shift in this type of agricultural activity with the rapid growth of communities in the central and southern Interior regions.

British Columbia contains an estimated 7.4 million hectares of open and forested grazing land in addition to farm land. Over 2 million hectares are held privately or otherwise alienated from the Crown. The balance is Crown range, most in use as common grazing land. The allocation of Crown range is tied to improved ranch properties under private ownership. In addition to natural grazing land, a number of community pastures have been developed under the auspices of the Agricultural and Rural Development Act. These pastures are located primarily in the Peace River and northern Interior districts. Current government programs emphasize improvements to range and hay land in order to produce more forage to support a larger cattle population, and further processing of agricultural products.

CASH RECEIPTS FROM FARMING OPERATIONS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA
(Millions of Dollars)

Product	1980	1981	1982	1983
Dairy products	174.2	195.7	217.2	217.0
Cattle and calves	127.1	115.9	128.2	123.1
Eggs	54.0	61.1	57.9	60.0
Poultry	66.3	81.8	78.2	77.8
Other livestock and products	47.7	61.7	73.9	68.0
Total livestock and products	469.3	516.2	555.4	545.8
Fruits	78.6	92.5	102.6	97.8
Vegetables and potatoes	68.2	74.2	83.9	80.5
Wheat, oats and barley	27.9	47.7	35.8	36.5
Floriculture and nursery	42.5	50.0	44.7	46.7
Other crops	53.2	59.8	51.9	48.6
Total crops	270.5	324.1	318.9	310.2
Provincial Income Stabilization Program	5.4	21.2	38.0	28.2
Other cash receipts	23.4	26.8	30.1	17.4
Total operations receipts	768.6	888.3	942.4	901.6

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM — Matrix 170

In 1983, establishments engaged in food and beverage manufacturing (excluding fish products) had shipments of $2.1 billion. The leading processors include: meat and poultry products ($503 million); dairy products ($442 million); and fruit and vegetable processing ($195 million).

The Okanagan Valley, famous for the production of tree fruits, especially apples, is also the centre of a grape-growing industry. Okanagan vineyards supply a significant proportion of local wineries' needs. Initial planting of hybrids were believed to be the only varieties able to withstand cold Okanagan winters. Success has recently been achieved with traditional varieties grown in the great wine-producing areas of the world. The quality of British Columbia wines is expected to continue improving, resulting in increased demand and assuring the grape-growing industry of a healthy future.

A trend toward larger farm operations was evident during the 1960's. People left the industry and small farms and ranches were consolidated to provide economies of scale. The pattern changed considerably between 1971 and 1981. The industry attracted a large number of new entrants, but as more than 90 percent of the arable land was already allocated, total farm acreage did not increase in proportion. The average size of census farms declined from 128 hectares in 1971 to 109 hectares in 1981 as a result. The average size of census farms declined by 23 percent and 7 percent respectively in the Cariboo and Peace River districts where extensive agriculture

requires very large units. Production increases have been, and will be, realized through intensive farm management and further clearing and improvement of existing acreages.

British Columbia and federal governments offer the agricultural sector programs designed to prevent the loss of farm land to other uses and to increase farm incomes to levels sufficient to maintain the industry's viability. All arable soils in the province have been mapped and classified on the basis of quality. The best classes of soils have been placed within Agricultural Land Reserves (ALR's), to be maintained for agricultural purposes. Partly as a result of the ALR's, special measures were required to increase farm income, as many farmers expected to sell their land for non-farm purposes to compensate them for low incomes. One such initiative is the Farm Income Insurance Program, the objective which is to use insurance principles to provide farmers with greater income security in relation to the basic costs of production. Most producer groups are covered by this program. Other universal programs provide financial assistance in various forms for joint services (e.g., water and drainage systems) and improved management practices. The Ministry of Agriculture and Food employs specialists who provide technical information to producers in the areas of horticulture, field crops, livestock, poultry, engineering, veterinary science, soil science, entomology, plant pathology, farm management, and dairying.

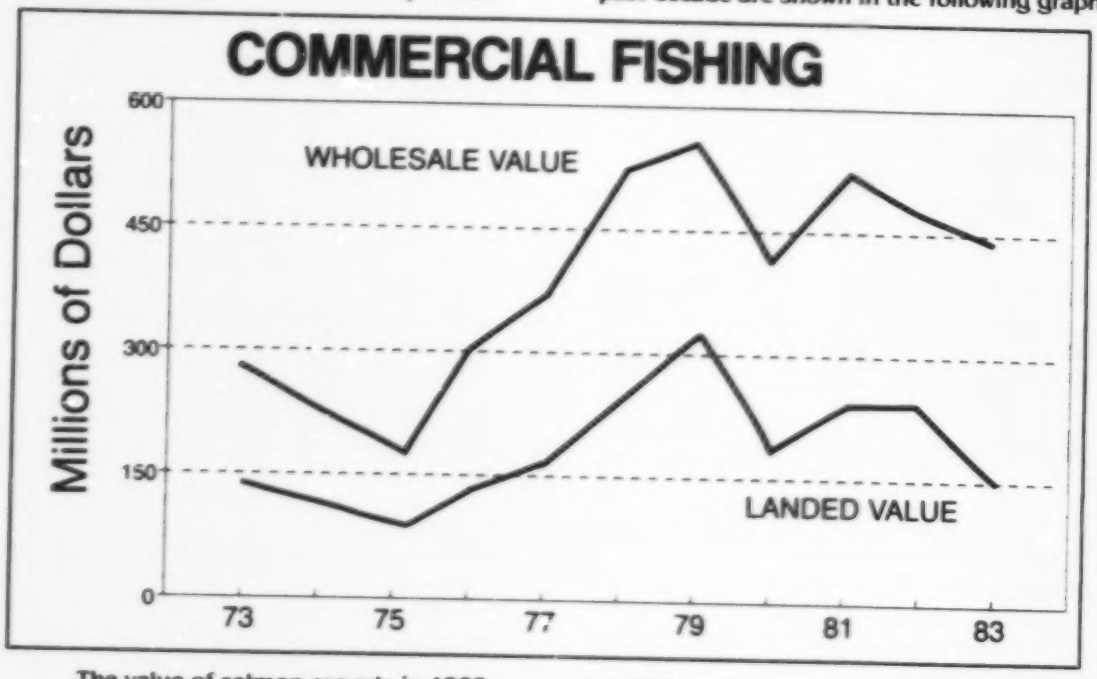
FISHERIES

- In 1983 the wholesale value of fisheries products was estimated at $441 million, with salmon products accounting for $285 million.

- Exports of fishery products totalled $361 million in 1983.

Over 20 species of fish and marine animals, indigenous to provincial waters, are valued for commerical utilization by British Columbia's fishing industry. In 1983, fish landing totalled 151,603 tonnes with a landed value of $145.7 million. Salmon, as the most valuable species, has accounted for roughly 70 percent of the landed and wholesale values of fisheries products in the last two years. Salmon landing in 1983 had a value of $107 million.

The landed and marketed values of British Columbia fisheries production over the past decade are shown in the following graph:



The value of salmon exports in 1983 was distributed as follows: 66 percent frozen, 26 percent canned, 4 percent fresh, and the balance as roe or in other forms. The 1985 canned salmon pack totalled 1,480,060 48-pound cases.

The herring fishery is the second most valuable sector of British Columbia's fishing industry. Total herring landings in 1983 of 39,743 tonnes had a landed value of $55 million. The wholesale value of the catch was $110 million. Herring are valued primarily for their eggs (roe) which are sold largely to the Japanese market.

The table on the next page shows the value of the major species marketed from 1980 to 1982.

There were 17,298 commercial fishing licenses issued in British Columbia in 1982. The industry also supports a large number of shoreworkers in fish processing plants and shipyards. One hundred and thirty-one companies with 145 plants processed fish in 1982. The processing sector continued to centralize at Prince Rupert and Greater Vancouver, although a number of small plants operate in coastal communities close to the fishing grounds. The number of vessels operating in the fishing industry in 1982, including packers and collectors, totalled 7,536, compared to 7,096 vessels in 1981.

Exports of fish and marine animals

WHOLESALE VALUE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA FISH LANDINGS
(Millions of Dollars)

Species	1980	1981	1982
Salmon	289.1	373.7	315.3
Herring	48.2	82.5	86.4
Halibut (1)	11.7	11.2	7.9
Grey Cod	6.9	9.5	7.6
Sablefish	5.2	6.1	7.1
Geoducks	3.6	3.8	5.2
Sole	6.0	5.9	4.7
Hake	(2)	(2)	3.8
Lingcod	2.4	2.6	3.7
Shrimp and Prawns	2.4	3.1	3.4
Crabs	4.3	3.3	3.3
Other Species	25.9	25.3	18.5
Total	405.8	526.9	466.8

Source: Ministry of Environment, Fisheries Production Statistics of British Columbia.
(1) Includes landings by Canadian Fishermen at U.S. ports
(2) Included in Other Species

contribute substantially to the provincial economy. The following table shows the distribution of fishery and marine product exports from 1981 to 1983:

BRITISH COLUMBIA EXPORTS OF FISH AND MARINE PRODUCTS
(Millions of Dollars)

Market Area	1981	1982	1983
Japan	131.8	159.7	135.7
European Economic Community[1]	81.9	74.8	68.8
United States	50.0	49.3	55.0
United Kingdom	65.3	43.6	68.5
Australia and New Zealand	28.3	18.5	17.3
Others	20.4	19.7	15.6
Total	377.7	365.6	361.1

Source: Ministry of Industry and Small Business Development, Estimates of B.C. Product Exports
[1] Excluding United Kingdom

Federal and provincial authorities exercise control over the industry. The Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans assumes responsibility for the protection and conservation of fisheries. The Marine Resources Branch of the provincial Ministry of the Environment assumes control after the fish are caught and removed from the water.

The declaration by the federal government claiming jurisdiction over all commercial fishing activities within 200 miles of the Canadian coastline was a major event in 1976. Previously jurisdiction extended 12 miles. Similar declarations have been issued by the United States, Mexico, and Norway. The European Common Market countries have also indicated support of a 200 mile zone for maritime nations. During the past few years a number of programs have been intiated to inventory the fisheries resources within the 200 mile limit and develop appropriate means to harvest and market species previously underutilized or caught by foreign boats.

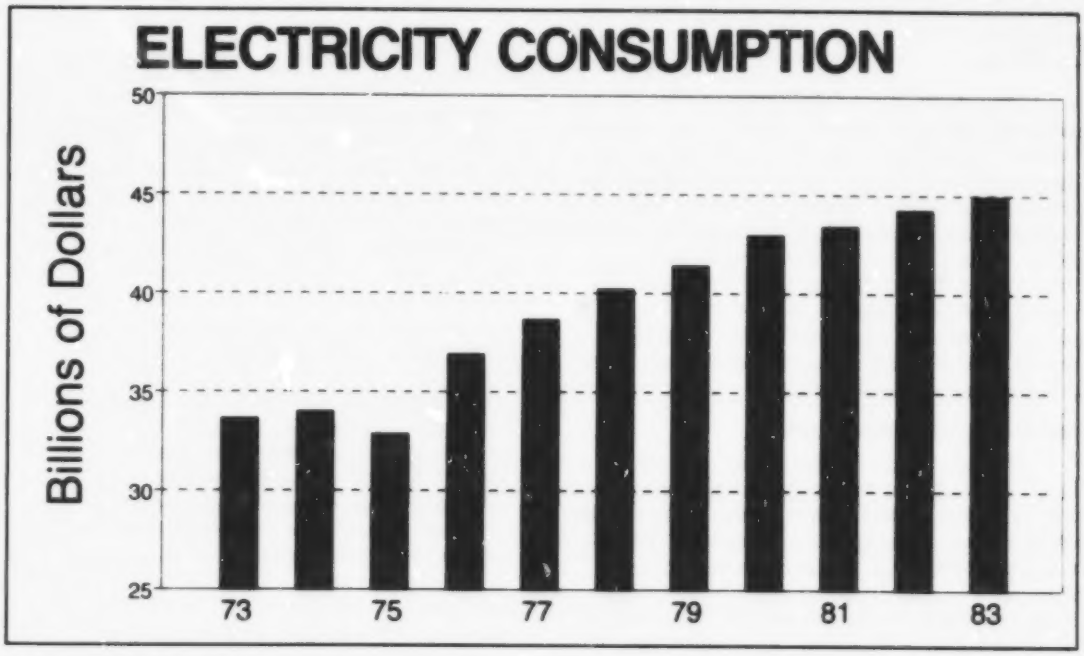
The implementation of the Salmonid Enhancement Program is of long term significance to the fishing industry. This program is designed to substantially increase the stocks of Canada's Pacific salmon through the use of artificial spawning channels, streamflow and water temperature controls, hatcheries, incubation boxes and rearing boxes, and the rehabilitation of natural spawning streams. A federal-provincial agreement for the long-term funding of the Salmonid Enhancement Program was signed in 1979.

Overcapitalization of the salmon fishing industry is a subject that has been of concern for many years. In late 1982 the report of the Commission on Pacific Fisheries Policy was released by the federal government. The report proposed diverse and potentially far-reaching initiatives for policy reform in the Pacific fishing industry, particularly with regard to rationalization of the fishing fleet.

ELECTRIC POWER

- Power generation in 1983 was estimated at 47,279 gigawatt-hours.
- Existing plants (hydro and thermal) have a total capacity of 11.1 million kilowatts.

Industrial and population growth in British Columbia over the past decade has been accompanied by an increase in demand for electric power. Average per capita demand has increased by 8.6 percent in the ten-year period 1973 to 1983. This corresponds to an annual compound growth rate of 0.8 percent.



Total installed generating capacity in the province at March 31, 1983 was 11.1 million kilowatts, of which 84 percent was hydro-electric. However, hydro-electric plants provided 95 percent of electricity generated in 1983. The supply and disposal of electric energy in British Columbia from 1973 to 1983 is detailed in the following table:

SUPPLY AND DISPOSAL OF ELECTRIC ENERGY IN BRITISH COLUMBIA (gigawatt-hours[1])

Year	SUPPLY					DISPOSAL	
	Net Generation			Receipts From Other Provinces and Imports	Total Supply	Delivered to Other Provinces and Exports	Total Demand
	Hydro	Thermal	Total				
1973	32,843	4,864	37,727	713	38,440	4,848	33,591
1974	34,367	1,889	36,256	709	36,965	2,977	33,988
1975	31,028	3,514	34,542	1,301	35,843	3,154	32,689
1976	36,906	1,974	38,961	1,200	40,161	3,305	36,856
1977	41,241	1,945	43,185	1,007	44,192	5,749	38,444
1978	40,615	1,898	42,513	1,522	44,035	3,933	40,102
1979	40,928	2,245	43,173	1,737	44,910	3,656	41,254
1980	40,860	2,474	43,334	2,823	46,157	3,454	42,704
1981	49,408	1,599	51,008	1,158	52,166	8,987	43,179
1982	46,127	2,111	48,238	2,308	50,545	6,615	43,931
1983	44,911	2,367	47,279	2,445	49,724	4,975	44,749

[1] gigawatt-hour = 1 million kilowatt-hours
Source: Statistics Canada, 57-001, 57-202

Current Construction and Recent Hydro-Electric Developments

The British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority, the province's major supplier of electrical energy, is currently completing a major hydro project near Revelstoke. Four generating units, with a combined nameplate generating capacity of 1,843 MW, are scheduled to come in-service during 1984. The Revelstoke Dam, a concrete gravity dam, will have an ultimate generating capacity of over 2,700 MW.

The Authority is also engaged in construction activities to extend or strengthen British Columbia's transmission system. Major transmission components under construction or newly completed include a 500 kilovolt transmission line linking Vancouver Island to the mainland, a line between Kelly Lake and Nicola substations linking the Peace and Columbia River systems, an interprovincial tie extending from Cranbrook to the Alberta border, and a line linking the Revelstoke Dam to the main provincial grid.

Undeveloped Hydro Power

British Columbia possesses an abundance of fresh water owing to the combination of a wet climate and mountainous terrain. The total hydro-electric power potential is difficult to assess precisely, but is conservatively estimated — according to a 1975 inventory — to exceed 20,960,000 kilowatts of firm power; i.e. power that is available 24 hours a day every day of the year.

It is customary to install generating capacity in excess of the firm-power rating of a site since electric energy is rarely required on a continuous full-load basis. The potential capacity of British Columbia's undeveloped resources at a load factor of 65 percent, for example, would approximate 30 million kilowatts.

The British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority has proposed a number of future electric power projects including: a dam on the Columbia River at Murphy Creek near Trail, in conjunction with the addition of generating facilities at the Keenleyside Dam just upstream; construction of a dam and power plant at Site C on the Peace River near Taylor (British Columbia Utilities Commission hearings completed in late 1982); a number of sites in the Stikine-Iskut River Basin; and a series of dams on the Liard River. These projects will not be required until the 1990's.

The Aluminum Company of Canada Ltd., has recently proposed to construct additional generation capacity at Kemano and additional storage capacity adjacent to its existing reservoir in the Nechako watershed area of northwestern British Columbia. The Kemano Completion Project would have a generation capacity of approximately 800 MW and would be used to supply power to two new aluminum smelters.

Thermal Energy

The province is endowed with a variety of fossil fuels, including oil, natural gas, and coal in addition to its vast hydro potential. All of these could be used for the generation of electric power, giving due consideration to environmental quality maintenance requirements. At present the largest thermal plant in the province is the Burrard Plant, located in the Vancouver area. It is intended for use primarily to supply peak power needs and is designed to use natural gas or oil.

British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority has decided to delay indefinitely any decision to utilize Hat Creek (near Cache Creek) coal deposits for thermal generation of electricity. The decision was a result of a reduced growth rate in demand for electric power, and rising costs of development. The generating plant at Hat Creek could have had an ultimate capacity of 4,800 MW and a economic life of 35 years. Studies are continuing to determine the feasibility of utilizing waste coal discarded by mines in the East Kootenay region.

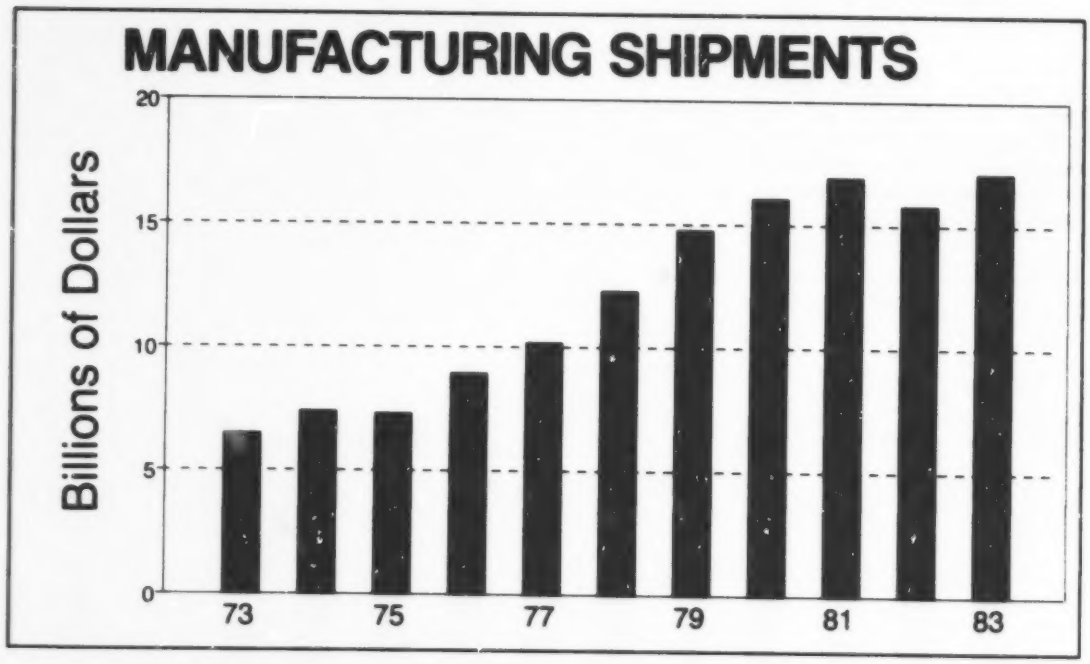
Other Developments

Concern over the rising costs of conventional energy has prompted various undertakings by the British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority, the Government of British Columbia, and the private sector. Energy conservation is being actively promoted and efforts are being made to utilize other power sources. Of particular interest are measures to promote the use of forest industry wastes which already supply a substantial part of the energy requirements of wood conversion plants. The Authority has also undertaken research on the feasibility of converting low quality coals to gas (either for industrial consumption or to fuel electric power plants) and on the prospects for utilizing British Columbia's geothermal potential.

MANUFACTURING

- Manufacturing shipments in 1983 were worth $16.8 billion.
- Employment in 1982 averaged 141,000 with salaries and wages totalling $3.8 billion.

The value of British Columbia shipments of manufactured products has grown at an annual rate of 10.2 percent during the past ten years. Since 1973 the value of factory shipments has increased $10.5 billion to reach $16.8 billion in 1983. Salaries and wages climbed from $1.4 billion in 1973 to $3.8 billion in 1982. The following graph displays the growth in British Columbia manufacturing shipments from 1973 to 1983:



The province's manufacturing industries are largely resource-based: namely forest products, refined non-ferrous metals, fish products, and processed agricultural products. The following table lists the leading manufacturing industry groups for 1983 in terms of value of shipments.

The Wood and Paper and Allied Industries accounted for 45 percent of the value of provincial factory shipments in 1983. This domination is expected to continue in the near future although further processing of other resources and an expansion in higher technology products such as electrical equipment, industrial equipment, chemicals, and plastics is anticipated.

The location of resources, centres of population and transportation factors have historically determined the regional distribution of manufacturing activity. The Greater

LEADING MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1983[1]

Industry Group	Value of Shipments ($ millions)	Percent
Wood	4,787	28.5
Paper and Allied	2,793	16.6
Food and Beverage	2,558	15.2
Petroleum and Coal Products	2,156	12.8
Primary Metals	781	4.6
Metal Fabricating	768	4.6
Transportation Equipment	550	3.3
Chemical and Chemical Products	488	2.9
Printing and Publishing	475	2.8
Non-metallic Mineral Products	436	2.6
Other Industries	1,019	6.1
Total	16,812	100.0

Source: Statistics Canada, 31-001
[1] Preliminary estimates.

Vancouver areas has developed as the major manufacturing centre with Vancouver Island ranking next in importance (pulp mills, sawmills, etc.). The Prince Rupert-Kitimat area has forest products, fish processing, aluminum refining, and methanol production. Wood products, food and beverage processing, trucks, mobile homes, and recreational vehicles are the principal manufacturing industries in the Okanagan. The Kootenay centre of Trail is the location of a major lead-zinc smelter and fertilizer plant. Most other regions of the province are dominated by forest products manufacturing although greater diversification is being achieved in step with population growth. The geographical distribution of manufacturing in British Columbia in 1980 is detailed in the following table:

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF MANUFACTURING IN BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1980[1]

Subprovincial Region	Establishments	Total Employees[2]	Value of Shipments ($ millions)
East Kootenay	62	1,849	236
Central Kootenay	122	4,629	408
Okanagan-Boundary	353	14,439	1,090
Lillooet-Thompson	121	4,157	595
Lower Mainland	2,374	81,234	8,334
Vancouver Island and Coast	494	20,737	2,279
Cariboo-Ft. George	241	15,824	1,741
Peace River-Liard	44	1,627	203
Skeena-Stikine	64	7,077	1,007
Total	3,875	159,974	15,893

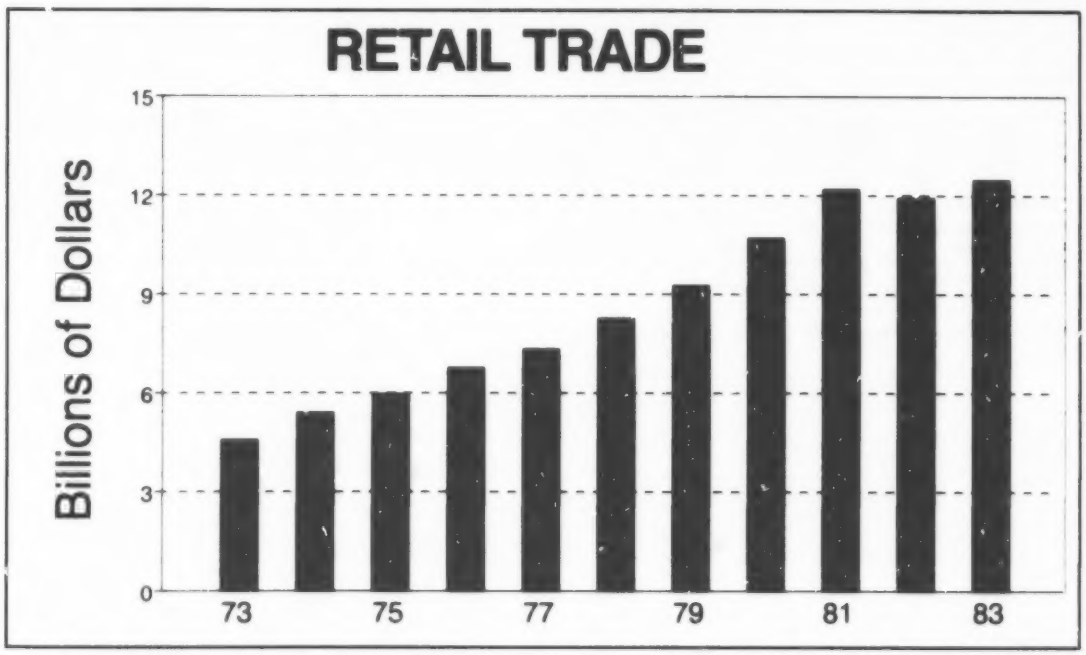
[1] Latest figures available.
[2] Includes head offices, sales offices, etc.
Source: Statistics Canada, 31-209

RETAIL TRADE

- Total retail trade in 1983 reached $12.3 billion.
- Per capita retail sales were $4,339

Total retail sales expanded at an average annual rate of 10.2 percent from 1973 to 1983, while per capita retail sales grew at an average annual rate of 8.0 percent during the same period. The years of greatest growth in retail trade (1974 and 1980-81) occurred partly because of higher inflation rates during those years, while the recession and high interest rates brought about a slight deline in 1982.

Annual growth in retail trade for the years 1973 to 1983 is shown on the following graph:



Since 1973, total retail trade accounted for by chain stores has remained relatively constant — approximately 45 percent of total retail sales, compared to 55 percent for independent stores. Metropolitan Vancouver is British Columbia's predominant trading area and normally accounts for slightly more than half of total retail sales in the province — 50.3 percent in 1983.

Food-related stores account for the largest share of retail sales (27 percent in 1983), followed by automotive-related outlets (25 percent), and department stores (15 percent). The following table provides a detailed breakdown of retail sales by kind of business:

RETAIL TRADE BY KIND OF BUSINESS, BRITISH COLUMBIA
(Millions of Dollars)

Kind of Business	1980	1981	1982	1983
Combination stores (groceries & meat)	1,815	2,106	2,391	2,546
Grocery confectionery & sundries stores	319	412	452	460
All other food stores	190	222	264	277
Department stores	1,625	1,809	1,730	1,780
General merchandise stores	245	246	216	217
General stores	132	150	145	155
Variety stores	82	86	78	83
Motor vehicle dealers	2,075	2,174	1,607	1,750
Used car dealers	67	69	48	50
Service stations	626	772	936	908
Garages	98	113	125	104
Automotive parts & accessories stores	138	167	172	226
Men's clothing stores	93	99	101	114
Women's clothing stores	177	191	195	214
Family clothing stores	123	136	133	142
Specialty shoe stores	14	16	12	12
Family shoe stores	64	72	74	73
Hardware stores	86	93	85	88
Household furniture stores	102	123	96	110
Household appliance stores	50	57	43	53
Furniture, T.V., radio and appliance stores	91	77	70	84
Pharmacies, patent medicine & cosmetics stores	437	520	580	567
Book and Stationery stores	51	54	49	52
Florists	31	32	32	30
Jewellery stores	129	143	130	135
Sporting goods and accessories stores	174	218	194	204
Personal accessories stores	213	234	202	181
All other stores	1,324	1,612	1,605	1,621
Total, all stores	10,572	12,000	11,766	12,257

Source: Statistics Canada, 63-005

BANKS AND CREDIT UNIONS

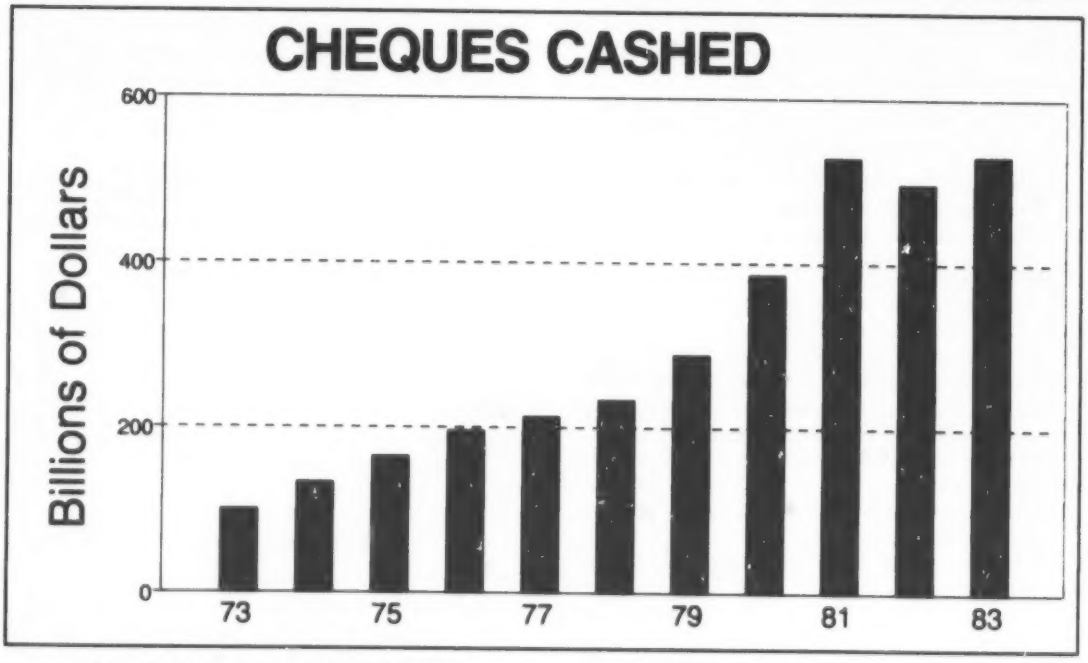
- As of December 31, 1983, chartered banks had total assets of $34.5 billion in British Columbia.

- As of December 31, 1983, credit unions in British Columbia had total assets of $5.8 billion.

- The 1983 value of cheques cashed in British Columbia totalled $524 billion.

Banks

During the last ten years there has been a steady increase, except for 1982, in the value of cheques cleared through British Columbia clearing-house centres in Vancouver and Victoria. During 1983, cheques cleared through these two clearing centres totalled $523.6 billion. The increase in cheque value over the past decade reflects not only inflation, but also economic growth accompanied by an increase in the use of provincial banking facilities. The value of cheques cashed from 1973 to 1983 is shown in the following graph:



Chartered banks maintained 857 branches in British Columbia at the end of 1983, with all of the major national chartered banks being represented. As of December 31, 1983, the chartered banks' total assets in British Columbia were $34.5 billion, representing 9.4 percent of total chartered bank assets in Canada.

The growing importance of Vancouver as a financial and commercial centre of the Pacific Rim is also reflected by the fact a number of foreign banks have established limited corporate banking functions in the city. Several foreign banks have Canadian head offices in Vancouver, while several others have branches.

The Bank of British Columbia is the only Canadian chartered bank with its head office in British Columbia. It commenced operations in Vancouver in July 1968 and, since then, it has opened an additional 37 branches in British Columbia and 13 in Alberta. As of April 30, 1984, it had total assets of $3.2 billion, deposits of $2.9 billion, and loans of $2.5 billion.

The British Columbia Development Corporation (BCDC) was established by legislation in April 1973 and commenced operation in April 1974. The objectives of the Corporation are to encourage economic development and increase income, employment,

and other economic benefits to the province by encouraging and assisting in the establishment, expansion, and continued operation of industrial enterprises in the province. In order to meet these objectives, the Corporation is active in land acquisition and development, and business development through direct loans, loan guarantees, and advisory services. In the fiscal year ended March 31, 1983, BCDC approved 186 direct loans and guarantees, having a total value of $37 million. Employment created or preserved by the loans totalled 4,166 jobs.

The Federal Business Development Bank (FBDB), a federal Crown Corporation, replaced the Industrial Development Bank on October 2, 1975. The bank, represented by seventeen branch offices and four sub-branches in British Columbia, continues the role of providing loans, as well as equity financing, to small and medium-sized businesses unable to secure funds through conventional channels. The bank approved 546 loans in British Columbia totalling $78 million in the fiscal year ended March 31, 1984.

Credit Unions

The growth of credit unions in recent years has been substantial. Today they are an important financial institution in British Columbia. Credit union membership in 1983 totalled 932,000. Credit union assets, as a percentage of the chartered banks' total assets in British Columbia, totalled 16.7 percent as of December 31, 1983. The following table summarizes some important statistics on credit unions as of December 31, for the years 1981 to 1983:

CREDIT UNIONS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

	1981	1982	1983
Credit Union Locations	327	310	312
Number of Members	960,000	930,000	932,000
	($ million)		
Members' Deposits	4,339	4,541	5,219
Loans to Members	3,948	3,858	4,473
Total Assets	4,994	5,211	5,750

Source: B.C. Central Credit Union Annual Report 1983

Water-Borne Shipping

Deep-sea international shipping lines reach out from British Columbia to the major ports of the world. Coastal shipping, including specialized freight and rail barges, log-towing, and passenger and freight steamers, also comprises an important segment of the transportation picture. Vancouver, the province's principal port, handled a record 51.6 million tonnes of international and domestic shipments in 1983. Vancouver is the largest dry cargo port on the entire Pacific Coast of North America. British Columbia customs ports annually handle 35-40 percent of all Canadian water-borne exports. The following table provides information on cargoes handled through British Columbia ports from 1979 to 1982:

CARGOES HANDLED THROUGH BRITISH COLUMBIA PORTS, COASTWISE AND INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING, 1979-1982
(Thousands of Tonnes)

	1979	1980	1981	1982
Total Coastwise	61,975	67,228	52,005	46,795
Loaded	31,049	33,838	26,055	23,421
Unloaded	30,925	33,390	25,950	23,374
Total International	54,270	57,554	59,416	55,071
Loaded	48,147	52,181	53,419	51,077
Unloaded	6,123	5,374	5,997	3,994

Source: Statistics Canada, 54-210 and 54-211

Major deep-sea bulk-cargo facilities within the Greater Vancouver port area are located at North Vancouver, Surrey, Port Moody, and Roberts Bank. Commodities shipped include: coal, grain, forest products, mineral concentrates, potash, and sulphur. Major expansions at Roberts Bank and Prince Rupert were undertaken recently to handle increasing export volumes. The Port of Vancouver has two container wharves — 'Vanterm' with 3 container cranes and Centennial Terminal with 2 cranes — which handled 136,000 containers (1.16 million tonnes) in 1983.

Railways

British Columbia is served by two national railways as well as the British Columbia Railway (formerly called the Pacific Great Eastern Railway) and several American lines. The Canadian National Railway connects Prince Rupert, Kitimat, and Prince George with Edmonton, Alberta, and points east. It also links Vancouver and the south central region of the province with Edmonton. The Canadian Pacific Railway joins Vancouver and the southern regions of the province with Calgary and Lethbridge, Alberta, and points east. The CNR and CPR both operate lines on Vancouver Island. The British Columbia Railway has its southern terminus at North Vancouver and serves central and northern British Columbia. Terminals are at Fort St. James, Fort Nelson, Dawson Creek, Mackenzie, and Tumbler Ridge. The latest addition to the BCR system is a 123 km branch line from Anzac to the new coal mines at Tumbler Ridge. The line, which is electrified, was operational in late 1983, although electrification was not completed until 1984.

The Northern Alberta Railway connects with the British Columbia Railway at Dawson Creek. American rail lines serve some British Columbia points directly or interchange with Canadian railways at southern border points. A number of industrial railways, the British Columbia Harbours Board Railway (operated by the BCR), and the railway freight service of the British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority also serve the Lower Mainland area. The White Pass and Yukon Railway, between Skagway, Alaska and Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, crosses through the northwestern corner of the province.

Highways and Transit

Billions of dollars have been spent in British Columbia to extend and improve the highway system since World War II. The estimated expenditure for building and maintaining highways amounted to $497 million during the fiscal year 1983/84. There are 43,668 kilometres of provincial roads and rights-of-way, of which 18,242 kilometres are paved.

An estimated 1.2 million passenger vehicles and 448,000 commercial vehicles (including buses and trollies were licensed in the province during the 1983 licence-year.

MAIN HIGHWAY AND FERRY ROUTES

MAIN RAILROAD LINES

BCR British Columbia Railway
CNR Canadian National Railway
CPR Canadian Pacific Railway
BNI Burlington Northern Inc.
NAR Northern Alberta Railway

British Columbia Hydro owned and operated transit systems in Greater Vancouver and Greater Victoria until March 31, 1980. Responsibility for operation of the transit systems was transferred to the Metro Transit Operating Company and the Urban Transit Authority (now B.C. Transit) on April 1, 1980. Many of the Province's other municipalities also enjoy local bus service. The Transit Authority also has overall responsibility for the construction of a rapid transit system (ALRT) between downtown Vancouver and New Westminster, scheduled for completion in 1986.

Airlines

There are 200 land bases, 63 seaplane bases, and 23 heliports, in the province. British Columbia is served by Air Canada, Canadian Pacific Airlines, and Pacific Western Airlines, all providing local, transcontinental and international services. Smaller airlines provide local services within the province. Regular and charter services link Vancouver with all parts of the world. Passenger activity at major airports in British Columbia is detailed in the following table.

TOTAL PASSENGERS (ENPLANED AND DEPLANED) AT MAJOR BRITISH COLUMBIA AIRPORTS — SCHEDULE SERVICES (Thousands)

Airport	1979	1980	1981	1982
Vancouver International	6,230	6,777	6,816	5,858
Victoria International	570	617	614	532
Kelowna	347	400	420	376
Prince George	303	335	330	258
Fort St. John	238	263	260	190
Kamloops	219	236	239	169

Source: Statistics Canada, 51-203

Communications

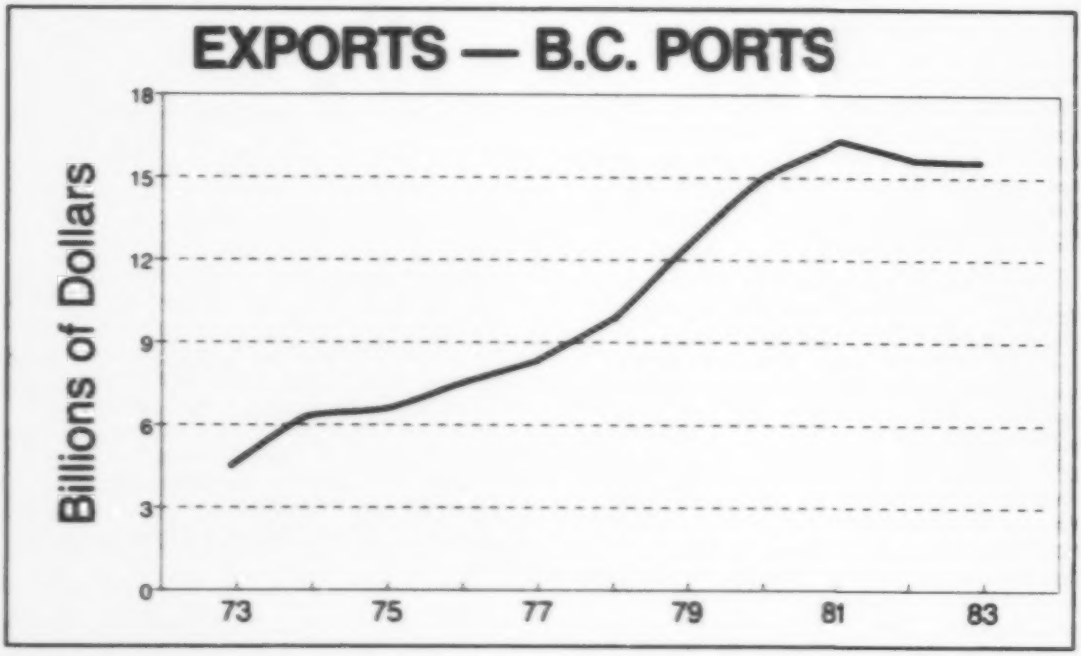
Many regular publications are printed in the province, including community newspapers, daily newspapers, and periodicals. The daily newspapers include both evening and morning editions. The two largest daily newspapers and their approximate circulations in the spring of 1984 were: The Sun (Vancouver), 260,000; and The Province (Vancouver), 160,000.

There are a number of telephone networks operating in British Columbia. The majority of British Columbians (99 percent) receive service from the British Columbia Telephone Company which provides access through 1.3 million lines, having assets of nearly $2.5 billion. In the northern part of the province, from Fort Nelson to Telegraph Creek, subscribers receive telephone service from NorthwesTel Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Canadian National. The Telephone Utility Department of the City of Prince Rupert provides telephone service throughout the Prince Rupert area. CNCP provides certain specialized telecommunications services throughout most of the urban areas of the province. In addition to these public networks, there are several private telephone networks, including the RCMP, the provincial government, and B.C. Rail.

As of March 31, 1983, there were 63 originating AM radio stations, 18 originating FM stations, 12 originating television stations, plus 2 pay-tv networks. In addition, there were 539 rebroadcasting stations in British Columbia comprised of 103 AM, 95 FM, and 324 television, plus 17 Cancom subscriber television stations (STVs). Through 90 cable systems, local cable television is available to over 95 percent of the residents of the province. Recent developments in the field of satellites and satellite receiving dishes have allowed many communities in remote areas of the province to receive television signals via satellite.

- British Columbia relies heavily on foreign markets, exporting more than 50 percent of its total goods production.
- Exports through British Columbia customs ports were valued at $15.7 billion and imports, $6.5 billion in 1983.
- Exports of products of B.C. origin through all Canadian custom ports were estimated at $9.9 billion in 1983.

British Columbia plays an important role in Canada's foreign trade, both as a producer and as a provider of transportation services. Exports through the province's customs ports include products of the Prairie Provinces, in large part grains, oilseeds, potash, coal, petroleum and natural gas. With the rapid growth of the Pacific Rim markets, various products from eastern Canada are also exported via British Columbia. At the same time, a significant proportion of commodities imported through the province's customs ports are destined for other parts of Canada, particularly automobiles and other manufactures from Japan.



Exports

Approximately 40 percent by value of all exports through British Columbia customs ports are destined for the United States each year. Leading commodities shipped to the U.S.A. include lumber, pulp, newsprint, natural gas, metals in ores and refined form, crude petroleum, propane, butane and cedar shingles and shakes. Despite the predominance of natural resource products, the United States has become an important market for a wide range of sophisticated manufactures from British Columbia and other parts of Canada.

The following table summarizes exports by principal market areas over the past three years:

	Exports Through B.C. Customs Port (millions of dollars)		
	1981	1982	1983
United States	6,122.7	6,305.5	6,248.6
Japan	3,791.7	3,739.3	3,902.7
United Kingdom	481.3	426.0	398.0
Other Common Market[1]	1,346.9	1,121.0	1,004.3
People's Republic of China	871.3	956.2	1,289.0
Australia	395.8	341.4	223.5
Other Countries	2,943.2	2,802.7	2,648.1
Total	15,956.9	15,696.1	15,691.2

[1] Belgium, Luxembourg, Germany, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Denmark, Ireland, and Greece.
Source: Ministry of Industry and Small Business Development, External Trade Report

Although the value of exports has changed little during the past three years, the two decades prior to 1981 were years of rapid growth and significant change. Japan experienced the fastest rate of growth during that period and now accounts for almost 25 percent of exports through British Columbia customs ports. Principal exports to Japan include coal, copper concentrates, lumber, herring roe and other fisheries products, pulp, potash, wheat and other grains, oilseeds and refined aluminum.

The United Kingdom and other Common Market countries purchase large quantities of lumber, pulp, metals in ores and ingot, fisheries products, grains, paper and paperboard, plywood and asbestos. The United Kingdom has undergone a major change in trading patterns since it became a member of the EEC, and its relative importance as a market for western Canadian goods has been steadily declining. In recent years this has also been the case for the rest of the Common Market.

The most significant recent development has been the rapid advance in trade with the People's Republic of China. Between 1979 and 1983, exports to China through British Columbia customs ports rose by 136 percent, and China's share of total exports increased from 4.2 percent to 8.1 percent. Similar, though smaller gains (in dollar terms) have been recorded by South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Indonesia and Malaysia. These rapidly industrializing countries are expected to continue increasing their share of world trade, thereby presenting excellent opportunities for Canadian exporters. While markets in Europe, the Middle East and Africa will not be neglected, the focus of Canada's — and particularly British Columbia's — future sales efforts will be the countries of the Pacific Rim.

Exports of British Columbia Products

British Columbia goods exported through all Canadian customs ports were valued at an estimated $9,925 million in 1983, up almost 12 percent from 1982 and up $6,104 million or 160 percent from 1973. As the following table shows, resource products dominate the province's exports. Nevertheless, manufactures like heavy duty trucks, sawmill equipment, communications equipment, steel products, and a wide range of industrial and consumer goods contribute significantly to the total value.

LEADING BRITISH COLUMBIA EXPORTS
(Millions of Dollars)

Commodity	1981	1982	1983
Lumber	1,911.0	1,846.2	2,631.8
Pulp	1,709.3	1,520.0	1,427.2
Coal	730.9	780.7	821.87
Newsprint	526.0	566.5	577.5
Natural Gas	501.4	512.9	446.1
Copper ore and ingots	358.1	296.6	370.8
Fisheries products	377.7	365.6	361.1
Aluminum ingots	403.8	332.1	306.8
All Other commodities	2,634.5	2,676.3	2,981.9
Total	9,152.7	8,876.9	9,925.0

Source: Ministry of Industry and Small Business Development

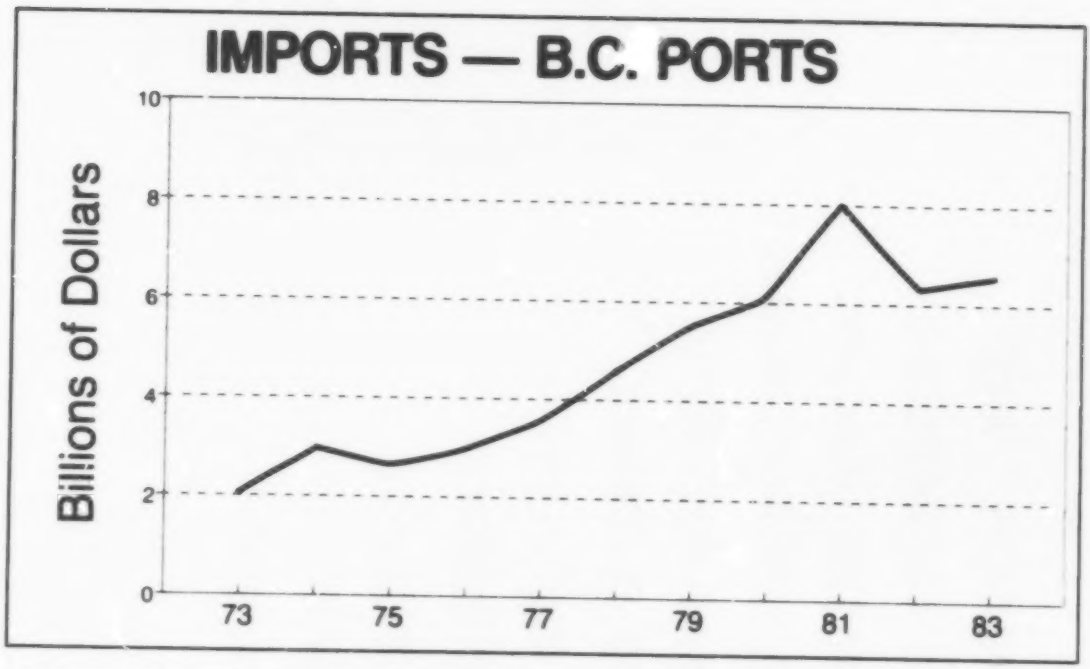
The distribution of British Columbia products is not unlike that of all products exported through the province's custom ports. The U.S.A. accounted for 50 percent in 1983, Japan for 22.3 percent, the United Kingdom for 4.5 percent and other EEC countries for 8.8 percent. However, between 1973 and 1983 all other countries increased their share of the total from 7 percent to 14.4 percent. This gain was largely attributable to those Pacific Rim countries identified in the previous section. Another market area exhibiting above-average growth for British Columbia products is the Middle East.

Imports

Because the majority of imports are manufactured goods, they tend to mirror economic conditions within Canada as a whole. The recent recession is clearly shown in the following graph (next page) of total imports through British Columbia customs ports from 1973 to 1983.

British Columbia's most important export markets are also the major sources of imports through the province's customs ports.

The United States dominates imports through British Columbia customs ports and in 1983 accounted for 43 percent of the total. Products imported from the U.S.A. are mostly manufactured goods but range from seasonal



Country or Market Area	Imports Through B.C. Customs Ports (millions of dollars)		
	1981	1982	1983
United States	3,770.3	2,797.5	2,772.3
Japan	2,439.6	1,995.8	2,167.8
United Kingdom	124.6	82.2	76.5
Other Common Market[1]	351.5	302.9	248.1
Central America and Antilles	99.7	70.4	86.5
Australia	197.8	141.8	142.8
Other Countries	969.6	865.8	956.1
Total	7,953.5	6,256.4	6,450.1

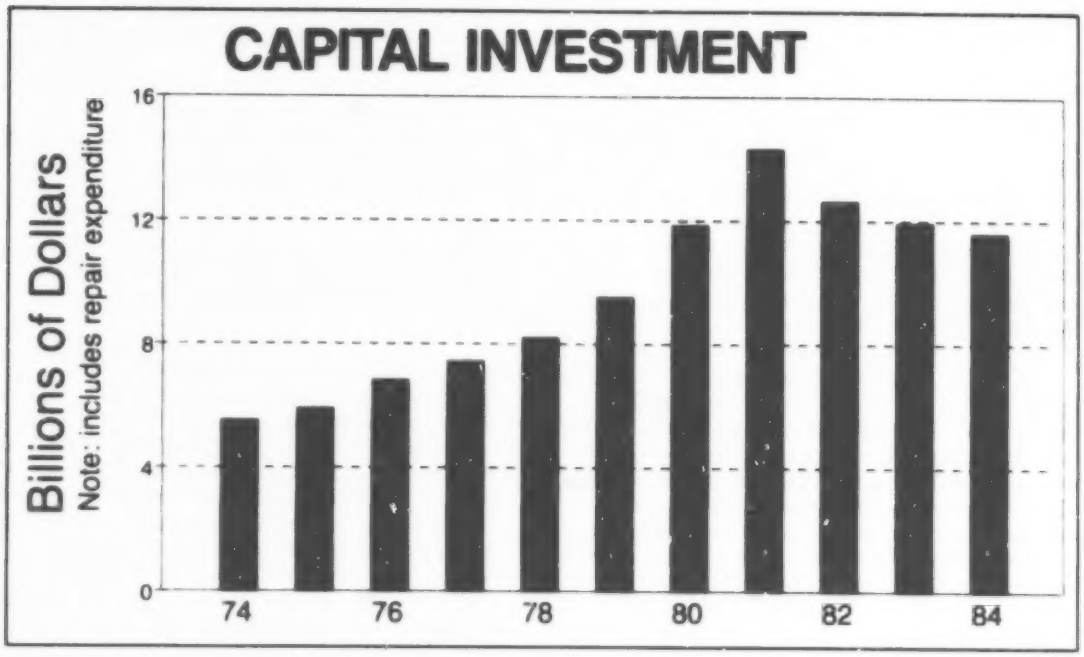
[1] Belgium, Luxembourg, Germany, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Denmark, Ireland, and Greece.
Source: Ministry of Industry and Small Business Development, External Trade Report

vegetables and citrus fruits to advanced technical goods. Imports from other industrialized and rapidly developing nations are predominantly manufactured goods. These include iron and steel, automobiles, motorcycles, radios, tape recorders, cameras, TV sets, machinery, processed foods, clothing, textiles and alcoholic beverages. Cars and trucks dominate import values, accounting for almost 20 percent of all inward movements through B.C. customs ports in 1983.

Australia and New Zealand are important suppliers of meat, fruit, alumina (raw material for aluminum), and raw sugar. Less developed countries supply bananas, tea, coffee, sugar, jute, and other tropical agricultural goods. Some industrial raw materials such as metals in ores and consumer products such as textiles are also purchased from these nations.

CAPITAL INVESTMENT AND CONSTRUCTION

- Capital and repair expenditures for 1983 totalled $12 billion.



Capital investment is an important indicator of the level of economic activity and the well-being of the province. Between 1973 and 1983, the value of capital and repair expenditures has increased over 2.7 times but, due to inflation, the growth in real terms has been somewhat less. The following table details recent capital and repair expenditures in British Columbia by sector:

CAPITAL AND REPAIR EXPENDITURES IN BRITISH COLUMBIA BY SECTOR (Millions of Dollars)

Sector	1981	1982	1983	1984[1]
Agriculture and Fishing	342.5	358.9	322.2	335.6
Mining	1,638.3	1,502.9	1,463.4	1,023.3
Forestry	249.9	205.9	253.3	321.4
Construction	346.6	295.7	296.3	269.9
Manufacturing	2,501.5	1,736.5	1,189.1	1,327.1
Utilities	2,916.2	3,564.1	3,447.1	2,957.6
Trade, Finance and Commercial Services	1,743.5	1,389.3	1,349.6	1,588.4
Housing	3,465.2	2,418.5	2,424.4	2,637.9
Government and Services	1,632.6	1,575.1	1,594.8	1,527.8
Total	14,881.3	13,046.9	12,340.2	11,989.0

[1] Intentions
Source: Statistics Canada, 61-205

Construction expenditures comprise roughly two-thirds of total capital investment in British Columbia, with the remaining one-third being spent on machinery and equipment. The following table shows the distribution of capital and repair expenditures from 1981 to 1984 by type of expenditure:

CAPITAL AND REPAIR EXPENDITURES IN BRITISH COLUMBIA BY TYPE OF EXPENDITURE (Millions of Dollars)

Type of Expenditure	1981	1982	1983	1984[1]
Construction —				
Capital	7,960.7	6,587.8	6,606.6	5,974.7
Repair	1,123.7	1,085.6	1,135.8	1,186.2
Total Construction	9,084.4	7,673.4	7,742.4	7,160.9
Machinery & Equipment				
Capital	3,924.4	3,514.5	2,680.7	2,773.8
Repair	1,872.5	1,859.0	1,917.1	2,054.3
Total machinery and equipment	5,796.9	5,373.5	4,597.8	4,828.1
Totals	14,881.3	13,046.9	12,340.2	11,989.0

[1] Intentions
Source: Statistics Canada, 61-205

Among recently completed major projects, the North East Coal Development stands out. Coal shipments commenced in late 1983 from two large open pit mines which opened up the province's newest production area. In addition to the mines, the project involved construction of a new community (Tumbler Ridge) complete with highway access, a 129 km rail line through the Rocky Mountains, a new coal port at Prince Rupert, CNR rail line upgrading and a new electric power transmission line to serve the mines, townsite and BCR branch line. Total cost was in the order of $2.5 billion. Work continues on expanding both the townsite and the Quintette Mine, and on rail upgrading.

Much of the province's current construction activity is centred on closely related projects in the Greater Vancouver area. B.C. Place, an urban redevelopment scheme encompassing much of the north side of False Creek, is expected to attract $2.4 billion in residential and commercial construction over a 25 year period. Part of the site is being used temporarily for a world class exposition (EXPO 86) scheduled for 1986 which will result in total capital outlays of $1.5 billion. Work is well underway on the project, one of the biggest components of which is a convention centre, cruise ship facility and hotel complex that will serve as the Canadian Pavilion during the fair. Construction is also proceeding on the Advanced Light Rapid Transit (ALRT) line, an $854 million commuter service that is to be completed in time for Expo 86.

In the industrial sectors, construction continues on the $2 billion Revelstoke power project, the Westmin mine expansion near Campbell River ($200 million), major pulp and paper mill expansion/upgrading projects at Woodfibre, Port Mellon, and New Westminster, and a $275 million grain terminal at Prince Rupert. In anticipation of future traffic increases, both the CNR and CPR are currently engaged in major upgrading and double-tracking efforts in British Columbia. The largest single undertaking is CPR's $600 million tunnel project in the Rogers Pass; construction begins in mid-1984 and will continue for more than three years.

Major undertakings in the planning stage include a $2 billion natural gas liquefaction project near Prince Rupert, Kemano Completion hydro-electric development ($850 million), an aluminum smelter at Vanderhoof ($1 billion) and a natural gas pipeline to Vancouver Island ($460-500 million depending on the route selected). In addition, a number of coal mines in the North East, South East, North West and on Vancouver Island are primed for development as soon as market conditions improve.

Housing

Residential building is an important part of British Columbia's construction industry. In 1984, it is expected to account for 22 percent of total construction expenditures. The following table details housing starts in British Columbia in 1983 by type of dwelling.

HOUSING STARTS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA BY TYPE OF DWELLING, 1983
(units)

Location	Type of Dwelling				
	Single Detached	Two Family	Row	Apartment and Other	Total
Metropolitan Vancouver	6,582	239	1,618	3,863	12,302
Metropolitan Victoria	1,060	95	220	369	1,744
Other Areas	7,495	111	128	827	8,561
British Columbia	15,137	445	1,966	5,059	22,607